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Biography

**ROMANCE
OF
EDWARD VIII & MRS. SIMPSON**

*An accurate Life story of Mrs. Simpson & a
True Story of King's Abdication*

*Edited by
Miss Margaret G Wilson*

**ORIENTAL AGENCY
18A, Shama Ch. De St., Calcutta.**

Foreward

This volume is only a rapid sketch of events—that succeeded so rapidly. These are mostly documentary evidences. Very little is known yet about the truths of the great King, the greatest heroine of the age—and the developements that have take the world aback. Hardly a record in history of recent period can furnish such a case as is presented to then readers of this volume.

The romance that costs the biggest Throne and Abdication in the shortest period is a great historic event of far-reaching significance. Neither Miss Wallis nor the Great-Ex-King has been as far very truly depicted. This Volume is an attempt to presnt to the astounded and to the curious, a correct picture.

Authoress

*Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor Iron bars a cage ;
Minds innocent and quite take
That for a hermitage .
If I have freedom in my love
And in my soul am free,
Angels alone, that soar above,
Enjoy such liberty.*

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ROMANCE

EDWARD VIII ■ MRS. SIMPSON

Of Royalty it is unparalleled, of constitutional problems ■ is the severest. It was matter that touched a reigning monarch—A bachelor king not only who felt that the heavy burden of ruling an Empire could not be borne day to day unless ■ ■ ■ shared by a royal consort however constitutionally limited monarch he might have been but also the very institution—the Royalty and the Royal House of Great Britain.

King Edward, in his personal anxiety, tried to take ■ royal consort to partake with him privately the burden of ruling his vast Empire in the person of a woman—a foreigner unknown, unnamed and a commoner woman whom he had been wooing since when he ■ Prince of Wales.

Voice of his Royal House about the affairs affected his own personality, touched the dignity of the British Royal House, crisis of an unparalleled constitutional problem in the Constitution of the ■ Administration and reign ■ ■ ■ heard in the public. And ■ the satisfaction of all, such reticences within Royal House never betrayed any shred of Palace intrigue of which the Hanoverian House is innocent. British Cabinet whispered, closed in press, was reticent. Pontifical cry ■ ■ ■ heard here and there sounded adamant. But the King who staked ■ ■ ■ in romance continued ■

[REDACTED] love for sharing the common lot of his subjects. He [REDACTED] rebel by nature, bent and temperament, and he thought and moved rebelliously against [REDACTED] tradition which sought [REDACTED] keep him aloof from the crowd. [REDACTED] became the embodiment of good fellowship. [REDACTED] to South Wales, His earnestness and passion for the welfare [REDACTED] all classes [REDACTED] the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] him [REDACTED] have direct and personal touch with the conditions [REDACTED] proved far from good. His excursions from [REDACTED] palace [REDACTED] not like the ancient or [REDACTED] monarchs or Kings visiting in disguise. His tour [REDACTED] generally regarded as the most important [REDACTED] undertaken by a British monarch. In the midst of the grim misery of these valleys [REDACTED] [REDACTED] greeted on all sides by the people [REDACTED] a harbinger of hope, a promise of better times. Newspapers emphasised the impression [REDACTED] made [REDACTED] the people and [REDACTED] equally profound impression their condition made [REDACTED] him. During his tour he [REDACTED] for Mr. Malcolm Stewart, Commissioner for the special Areas, who had recently resigned after submitting to the cabinet [REDACTED] outspoken report. He visited the "dead town" of Dowlais in Glamorganshire, where he said "something ought [REDACTED] [REDACTED] done to [REDACTED] these people employment." And before he [REDACTED] South Wales he had comforted host of thousand [REDACTED] unemployed people by [REDACTED] further statement "that something will [REDACTED] done."

In that momentous visit someone said "There [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Idle Rich." "Rich [REDACTED] not idle" was the prompt reply from H.M.

The Press comments on King's tour on [REDACTED] Wales was regarded as the most significant as the tour [REDACTED] News Chronicles wrote in its leader: "The King [REDACTED] above [REDACTED] outside politics. What he has done [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] sold [REDACTED] of truth and public service.....The [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] feels that Whitehall [REDACTED] condemned."

Indeed the code of Royalties in the orient says: "The King thru' his ears". We know but to be informed. The King's ministers are His Majesty's advisers and contrast his personal and representative concern for the well-being of a section of the people with the administrative step of his advisers is a dangerous proceeding.

The Daily News comments on the tour in the following manner: 'Something will be done' contrasted with the King's energy with what is alleged to be the Government's inertia, it is to be noted that following the King's tour the Welsh Parliament devoted a few days to the special Areas in which affairs the Royal tour, and was also contemplating the passage of a Bill.

King's Fate: Is it fateful?

What ended in tragedy on 11th day of December, 1936, and the curtain fell by no other hand than that of the King, which wrought the irrevocable decision, which saved the church, the England pollution, the constitution, the morals, minister's authority over the limited British monarchy. People felt sensation, but were hushed by the curtain sound of pathos or relief as it might have been their own, began in 1920, when perhaps the Royal hero of the drama knew what would befall him.

Now in the year 1920, in a foreign country, in an atmosphere of a commoner, innocent of the air of the arid desert of official England, the amber of love was kindled in the playful young Prince of Wales, the heir-apparent to the mighty throne. The young Prince of Wales received in the warmth of love, which ultimately proved of the forbidden tree, soared him

high on the plane of universal humanity, ~~which~~ domain cannot ~~be~~ circumscribed by hide-bound orthodoxy, ~~which~~ be ridden by ~~any~~ rigid constitution, which ~~is~~ in ~~and~~ an insti-
~~ment~~ admitting of no tradition, no precedent, ~~any~~ convention.

True ~~is~~ ~~the~~ ~~Prince~~ of Wales ~~has~~ been keeping up ~~the~~ fire which glowed him. Love ~~with~~ him is not a thing apart from his self, ~~the~~ ~~whole~~ of ~~his~~ ~~will~~ ~~with~~ ~~the~~ spirit of resignation ~~the~~ ennobled ~~the~~ object ~~of~~ love which in ~~the~~ arid ~~land~~ of officialdom of England ~~the~~ ~~has~~ rendered into a tragic drama.

Indian history furnishes a Meherunnisa, parallel ~~to~~ ~~the~~ Royal romance with girl of the name of a foreigner, unknown, unnamed and ~~a~~ commoner. It ~~was~~ the Prince Salim afterwards Jehangir, a Mughal Emperor of India. Prince ~~was~~ ~~the~~ ~~beir-apparent~~ ~~the~~ throne of Akbar, the mighty Mughal empire of India, contemporary ~~with~~ the Spinster Queen ~~of~~ Tudor House of England. The ~~girl~~ Meherunnisa was Persian by birth and nationality. Her father, ~~a~~ common trader, ~~was~~ ~~in~~ ~~with~~ family ~~the~~ ~~enterprise~~, ~~a~~ ~~fortune-hunter~~. The Persian ~~man's~~ young daughter Meherunnisa, by dint of her personal charm ~~and~~ beauty, found her ~~way~~ to the Imperial harem of Agra, when she caught ~~the~~ eye of ~~the~~ young Prince ~~who~~ ~~the~~ ~~love~~ with her. But ~~the~~ Imperial ~~father~~ ~~the~~ Great ~~the~~ ~~lover~~ ~~be~~ united by marriage tie, and commanded the girl to marry a Mughal soldier of same rank in the Imperial Army and sent them to Bengal to settle in. ~~the~~ the young Prince did not forget his Meherunnisa and afterwards at the ~~death~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ Imperial father, Salim, ~~the~~ ~~the~~

■■■ ■■ Jehangir, ascended ■■ Mughal throne and afterwards married ■■ Meherunnisa ■■ queen under the celebrated name of Nurjehan. Here and there ■■ no clash between Institution ■■ Constitution. Everything passed through smoothly. Mysterious ■■ ■■ of Providence, reverse ■■ have witnessed ■■ ■■ of King Edward of England.

■■■ King ■■ his Empire through ■■ Premior, "I ■■ prepared ■■ go" and ■■ ■■ going ■■ on 12th day of December, 1936, the situation, ■■ ■■ commotion, passed through a ■■ and ■■ make it ■■ backupon ■■ ■■

■■■ the King ■■ romance, the King in ■■ has ■■ away, ■■ ■■ remains with his glow and order of ■■ and love ennobling enough.

■■■ ■■ Prince of Wales, the heir-apparent to the British throne, sometimes in 1911 entered into ■■ in a foreign land with ■■ unnamed girl. The Prince of Wales of England, during ■■ of his visits to America, first ■■ Mrs. ■■ Wallis Wingfield Spencer. It was a simple affair and ■■ ■■ record of it. After long eleven years in 1931 the Prince of Wales and Mrs. Wallis Spencer were formally acquainted ■■ then also under unimportant circumstances.

In 1931 ■■ Sunday evening Mr. ■■ Mrs. Benjamin Thaw remembered that they had a dinner ■■ ■■ ■■ Ernest Simpson. The Prince suggested ■■ ■■ Mrs. Simpson should ■■ invited ■■ telephone ■■ dinner ■■ Fort Belvedere. The Simpson couple accepted ■■ invitation ■■ ■■ delight. They joined ■■ ■■ dinner and ■■ Prince found ■■ couple remarkably charming. Other meetings followed and the acquaintanceship ripened. ■■ Simpson was a woman ■■ charming and fascinating. The Prince took ■■ company in-

the Prince found the company of American oasis in the desert. Who she was? She married, a divorcee, a commoner, American boot.

The Romance : What came from Fort Belvedere

It was the Fort Belvedere that gave the wind out, which waved Mayfair and American Press. The week-end parties at Belvedere attracted the attention of Mayfair and foreign Press who began stock-taking of the fact that principals were beginning to draw nearer to each other. And length voices arise—Who is Mrs. Simpson, the other principal in the story?

Mayfair stirred. The American Press filled their with life-story of Mrs. Simpson, the principal picture in the map. Mrs. Simpson, the unnamed woman has had a romantic reference which so long an obscure, to a commoner. But she become brought to light by the American Press, the unnamed woman's. The American Press pieced together in the romantic and otherwise career of Mrs. Simpson and assayed its and bundled England.

Mrs. Simpson having her virgin name Bessie Wallis Warfield, the only child of Teakin Wallis, a relative of Governor Warfield of Maryland, born in 1896, Baltimore, Maryland, America. As Miss Wallis lost her father on her year, she lived her poor widow mother when the age of 12 uncle Mr. Solomon Davis Warfield, President of the Sea-board Airline Co., took her rear up. attended of schools in city and her into Baltimore "Society" of eighteen. In 1916 she met Lieutenant



Mrs. Simpson Dressed for press

Earl Wingfield Spencer of Chicago in Florida and ■■■ married to the Lieutenant and lived in Florida for two years. In July, 1927, when the Lieutenant Spencer ■■■ away in California, Mrs. Spencer filed a bill complaint to show that her husband ■■■ deserted her and gave her no pension for support since 1922. An uncontested divorce ■■■ decreed in her favour on those grounds at Warrenton, Virginia.

On July 28, 1928, she remarried Mr. Ernest Aldrich Simpson in London. Mr. Simpson is the son of Mr. Ernest L. Simpson of New York, a leading ship-broker of the firm of Simpson Spencer of New York and London.

Miss Bessie Wallis Warfield is born of Warfield family of England, having annals dating back to Norman England and earlier. Pagan de Warfield, a Norman gentleman, who joined the ranks of William the conqueror and fought valiantly at the battle of Hastings established the Warfield on English soil. Pagan de Warfield, as a reward for his valour and loyalty, received an English manor as "Knight's Fee" "Warfield's Walk" the estate was called in the Domesday Book. Pagan de Warfield is also credited with lands in Stratford.

Robert de Warfield of Warfield House is Knight of the order of the garter during the reign of Edward III and was of the Berkshire branch of the family. And the Warfield Parish ■■■ free gift to the family. Warfield ■■■ in Warfield Walk ■■■ one of the "Walks," into which Windsor forest was divided. In the annals of Windsor are found many interesting references to the ■■■ of Warfield, indicating the prominence of the family and its association with the Royal Household.

Centuries later, Richard Warfield, founder of the American branch of the family left Berkshire, England, and reached

the shores of Chesapeake Bay in 1662. A few years after his arrival Richard Warfield became the proprietor of an estate to which he gave his name. This was the history of the family to Mrs. Simpson, an unnamed U. S. girl and Commoner, born and destined to take the Royal hand of England by marriage and thereby to enthrone herself as full-fledged queen of England.

Mr. and Mrs. Simpson again. The couple entertained very much in London and entered an Anglo-American Society-Group in which the Prince of Wales had many friends. Mrs. Simpson made a good hostess of her small parties and became famous. And it was absurd that the Prince of Wales was frequent visitor.

As the days passed it came to be understood that Mrs. Simpson had secured a corner in the heart of the Prince of Wales and the speculation grew in volume, and after the death of the King George V it became apparent that King Edward was nursing the same feeling towards Mrs. Simpson and had not the intention to cut off his former relation, and speculation putting on a garb of scandal began to run riot.

Now the crisis is reached. On May 27th, 1936, for the first time for story of Romance, the names of Mr. and Mrs. Simpson as having dined with the King appeared in the Court Circular. Mayfair was bewildered and amazed. Westminster was astonished. Some section of the public who interested themselves in the dignity of the King and the throne and the morale of the constitution however comforted themselves by saying, "let this small indiscretion pass by." The common folk, commonly unmindful of things that happen in high

circle, went their daily round, ■ Mayfair which has kept his eye fixed on the King's Romance could ■ show to grasp its implication.

Further it appeared from the Court Circular, dated 10th July, 1936, that the King was not going ■ ■ his five-year-old friendship. As ■ appeared in circular that the King gave a dinner party at York House this evening ■ which the Duke and Duchess of York ■ present, and the small band of ladies and gentlemen to which Mrs. Earnest Simpson belonged, had the honour of being invited. That was virtually the King's ■ to Mayfair and Westminster. And also it ■ to be noted that Mrs. Simpson attended the dinner unescorted by her husband which it goes straight against the public decorum, appropriate to ■ married lady. Mrs. Simpson's this piece of conduct betraying intention of small indiscretion amounted to ■ ■ to her home press. This was answer indeed. The answer in movements was more eloquent than any ■ in voice uttered hoarse, and such ■ eloquent answer ■ only aggravated the situation.

Who was the principal Actor ?

The King ■ Mrs. Simpson ■ ■ other body or bodies ? When Mayfair had whispered America talked. And when the Americans get ■ such story it ■ its loudest notes.

King Edward's way ■ ■ considered by those who count in England, save to the British Royalty. They thought it ■ have possessed much ■ of explosive ■ combustible nature and ■ the same time they entertained that with all such matters King's way ■ be kept out of danger if carefully managed. And what happened ? The wide-awake

people of England, in their deep anxiety, managed to the Royalty of England not Royal person — King of England.

King's manner was long looked upon — or less explosive but — wanting in sufficient energy to explode out of itself. Came Wally then to supply energy necessary to — explosion. England got aghast, jubilant — America, Europe was in enjoying mood. King and Wally meet and exploded a dynamite. Who — Walli? The answer — emphatic — no. She — — unnamed American commoner girl and a divorcee.

What — she? She is decidedly not a beautiful — She stands five feet five inches in her stockinged feet.

Slim and slender, she possesses a perfect figure. Her shoulders are broad, her hips narrow. Her hands, — legs and feet suggest a thorough-bred.

Her eyelashes are long, her eyes expressive and beautiful. Her — and the back of her head are moulded exquisitely. Her jaw is long, a typical "Southern" jaw.

She — very little make up, no rouge at all, just a bit of lipstick. That and her unerring taste in clothes make her stand out anywhere, — in a drawing room packed with much taller and — beautiful —

Mrs. Simpson has got an unerring — in clothes in — much — she — — the same evening dress — times in succession and look different each time. It's — what she — but how she — it. So much for her — — rance and dress. But they — not — important as her character and disposition. "Mrs. Simpson is the only human being" says — American paper "who — — — as lark." It — — happy quality of sincere gaiety — is — real — of both

her charm and what spoken of her written about her in the months of 1936 ?

If the heroine of "The Greatest Love Story of the Century" ever read what written about her in the mad month of December, 1936, she would be bound to recall those words. It might amuse her in the years to come to discover that among many other things dragged out of history, zoology, and the Britannica, she had been called ;

(1) A Cinderella, 1937 model, who managed to swap the hardships of a bleak house in Baltimore for the luxuries of a palatial residence in London.

(2) A modern Cleopatra who threatened to do the British Empire what her Egyptian predecessor did to Pax Romana.

(3) A Diane de Poitiers reincarnated, who got hold of the secret of eternal youth, and who looked eighteen and acted fourteen in the of forty-ones.

(4) An American edition of Mme. de Pompadour, who wove intrigues from sunrise to sunset, and who charmed a young and inexperienced sovereign into complete submission.

(5) A Dixie replica of Mme. de Barry, who believed that the end justifies any means, and who preferred to ignore the rumblings of an approaching revolution.

Twenty years' Siege

Look at the hero, who made so daring a rash in life, born a prince and the hier-apparent on a throne and— "Brought up in the solemn atmosphere of a royal palace, who been delivering four speeches a day since he reached his twentieth birthday, who has one or another fifty or sixty uniforms, who been

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Twenty years' ■■■■

Look ■■■ the hero, who has made so daring a rush in life. ■■■ is born a prince and the hier-apparent to a throne and—"Brought up ■■■ the solemn atmosphere of a royal palace, who has been delivering four speeches a day ever since he reached his twentieth birthday, who has ■■■ ■ one time or another fifty or sixty ■■■■ uniforms, who has ■■■

spend his with bores and stuffed shirts, who has had watch constantly lest he be cajoled into a marriage long-nosed, waistless princess, who has seen much of what he calls "bowing scraping" that mention of the word etiquette sends him into fits and spasms"

If you put yourself in the place of whose human traditionally courtiers, statesmen, politicians and schemers, who could not but suspect every one of trying something out of him and friendship, to give up his favourite sport because the Empire "could not afford accident in the Royal Family," who derive but pleasure out of his travels, because wherever becomes a show.

If you put yourself in the place of a man who up to the age of thirty-nine had never met any one who could give him the only thing he was always after—a bit of gaiety and friendship—

You will realise the nature of the relationship which existed between the hero and the heroine of the Greatest Love Story of the Century until the very moment when the combined forces of the British Old and the International Kibitzers rushed to storm 16, Cumberland terrace.

Had he been after beauty, youth, blue-eyed sweetness or revelry, he could have had it of years ago. Many ambitious royal mother, many a multi-millionaire, many European chancellery, had tried the midnight oil for twenty years trying up ways and means of cornering the ever-elusive, the ever-desirable Prince of Wales.

Nothing ■■■ overlooked, no bet neglected, no ■■■ ignored during ■■■ twenty-year siege of York House.

And yet ■ fell ■ the lot of an American who ■■■ the money which Americans are expected to have nor ■■ resplendent beauty which some of them actually ■■■ become the only real friend, the world's most eligible bachelor has ■■■ had.

A natural, ■■ altogether logical question arises. Why should ■ have been Mrs. Simpson and ■■■ other attractive, charming ■■■ ? Attractiveness and charm have never been ■■ a premium in London.

The King's pro-American sympathies ? Well, Mrs. Simpson was not exactly the only American ■■■ residing in London in the late 1920's and the early 1930's.

New York and Philadelphia, Boston and Chicago, Washington and St. Louis, Denver and San Francisco have never stopped shipping ■■■ fair daughters ■■■ to England.

Some of them married resounding titles. The others, while satisfied with their American husbands, ■■ firmly established in London and Mayfair.

■ would be difficult indeed to find a prominent American woman ■ London who has ■■■ money ■■ "connections" than Mrs. Simpson ■■ when she first settled in King Edward's land.

What we ■■ driving ■ is this : ■■■ once all the fancy ■■■ explanations of Mrs. Simpson's ■■■

■ parties were ■■ spectacular, her beauty not dazzling, her circle ■ friends ■■ impressive .But—and ■■ is a very important "but"—it ■ happens that Mrs. Simpson was ■■ only ■■■ the King ■■ ever ■■ who ■■ only was gay as ■ lark but who ■■■ seem to ■ overawed by his rank.

■ did ■ in for "bowing and scrapping" as everybody ■
 ■ did she try to exploit their friendship, ■
 almost everybody else had tried to do.

■ call up every ■ she knew and say. "Oh
 ■ By the way—fancy what? I'm going out tonight with
 his Royal Highness." She did not junk her old friends or stop
 inviting them to her house just because they happened to be
 "Mr. and Mrs." instead of "Lord and Lady."

■ remained herself—and that's where she showed her
 intelligence.

Had she acted differently, there would be ■ "case of Mrs.
 Simpson" today.

Unlike ■ many American-born-pecesses who try to out-
 ■ the British, she is still an American. Possible more
 ■

Her's are ■ broader than they need to be, and her ■
 of humour ■ intact. She ■ believes that English cooking
 ■ atrocious—and thereon hinges a delightful story.

Unbelievable as ■ may sound, it ■ she who made his
 Britannic Majesty food-conscious. Each time he dined at her
 house she served him a Southern dish. ■ noticed it ■
 He wanted ■ know how it ■ made. She explained readily.

■ pointed out that while in England every vegetable
 ■ alike, ■ back ■ Baltimore one ■ actually able to
 ■ whether ■ was eating ■ cabbaga.

The King laughed. No other ■ has ■
 ■ in such a fashion. No other woman ever ■ criticise
 English' cooking ■ the ■ of ■ King ■ England.

"The trouble with you is," ■ told him ■ when they

in Paris, "that you invariably in restaurants where royalty is supposed to eat. I assure you that, after all these years, I have never tasted French cooking".

The Prince—he then still the Prince of Wales—demurred. He was under the impression that the hotel where he was stopping was serving excellent food. Wouldn't she dine there? She would not, "It's food for royalty—no taste."

They wound up that night in a small restaurant on the Rue du Faubourg St. Honore.

The hero of the greatest love-story of the century will be forty-three this coming June. He looks younger, much younger. At least he did look much younger until the battle began.

According to our American standards and ideas, a man of forty-three owes it to himself not only to look young but to maintain his fealty to youth. According to our American standards and ideas, I said—I wish I could underline that word 'American' three times.

For, all fine speeches on American friendship notwithstanding, there is much in common between our ideas and those of the British as there is between Herr Hitler and Stephen Wise.

A man of forty-three is not considered a young man in England, at least not in the England of yesterday, and not in the England of today.

He is considered a young man in the England tomorrow, but on a very recent date, the "England of tomorrow" constituted an infinitesimally small minority in and around London.

Queen Victoria and her [redacted] were [redacted] very much alive in [redacted] the bleak and [redacted] winter morning of 1912 when King Edward VII walked behind [redacted] father's coffin.

"His Majesty should marry a princess and [redacted] down," said [redacted] solid, stout-hearted [redacted] whose [redacted] "settling down" precludes anything even remotely suggestive of American rhythms and American youthfulness.

Well, the truth is that the King flatly refused to settle down in that fashion. Admiring as much as [redacted] the memory of his father who was the head of a family of [redacted] the age of forty-three, he believes that [redacted] call for [redacted] ideas, [redacted] faces and [redacted] rhythms.

That he had [redacted] ideas was known beforehand; but that he would surround himself with new faces, that he would retire almost every one of [redacted] father's aides, [redacted] not known, not [redacted] suspected.

When this [redacted] happen, when one after another of [redacted] great Georgian courtiers [redacted] asked to step aside and relinquish their posts to the younger [redacted] who belived in New Times and New Rhythms, there was a cry of agony and protest from [redacted] England of yesterday.

The Carlton Club was shocked. The Royal [redacted] Squadron [redacted] aghast. The reigning dowagers gasped. The friends and relatives of the [redacted] [redacted] were in work.

"Went to work" is right, because [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] witnessing [redacted] England, [redacted] [redacted] combat between Youth and Age had [redacted] preceded by several months of careful preparation.

What the Old Guard needed most of all [redacted] a shining target to shoot [redacted] [redacted] one who could [redacted] [redacted] responsible for

Edward's "daring ideas." Some one, who, because of his peculiar characteristics, could be made obnoxious in the Great Class.

Mrs. Wallis Warfield Simpson did the bill admirably. Not only was she a complete stranger, but she happened to be an American. What could be more natural and logical than to have an American responsible for Edward's American ideas?

The English can stand on their heads about blue murder denying that Mrs. Simpson was attacked because of her American birth, but any one who has spent as much as six months in England knows that the British cannot overcome their dislike of Americans.

So the campaign started. In strict accordance with the ethics of all political campaigns, the real issue—Edward's modernism—was mentioned by the leaders of the Old Guard.

It wouldn't have done to tell the people that they should criticize their sovereign because he dared to wear a score of stuffed shirts.

It wouldn't have done to say that a remark made by him on the occasion of the launching of a luxurious

Strange, isn't it? We were offered money for a beautiful toy, which we could not afford to buy. ("The slums") had sent cold shudders down the spine of the Old Guard.

It wouldn't have done to accuse him of sympathy for the starving miners of Wales. Mrs. Simpson! Oh, what a sweet issue, too good for words...An American woman, a friend and confidante of the King! How shocking—how very, very revolting!

Had Mrs. Simpson been a British woman, the leaders of the Old Guard would have had no issue, for there is nothing unprecedented or unusual in the fact of King of England's friendship with a married or divorced woman.

The most amusing and the most hypocritical part of the anti-Simpson campaign was that its leaders—retired courtiers and their disgruntled relatives—knew very well about the existence of the King's American friend as far back as four years

The self-same old gentleman and ladies who wring their hands and shake their heads now thought not much but twelve short months ago that the King was "very admirable" and the heir to the throne was finally able to find a sincere friend, some one in whom he could confide, some one who by all means was exercising a "constructive influence" on him.

Not only did they know and say so, but oh, the great irony of human comedy! they had given and given to Mrs. Simpson a formidable collection of letters which were still in her possession.

Letters signed by Great Britain's most resounding names. Letters inviting Mrs. Simpson to join their parties and her

Letters praising her for having been able to explain to the sovereign the necessity of spending money of money with the so-called "Prince of Wales set", a galaxy of idlers ranging all the way from Wodehouse characters to out-and-out chisellers, who came from every end of the Continent and other boasting of their pull with his Royal Highness, that the habit of associating with the domestic imported ne'er-do-wells, should have more attention than his dukes and earls.

A single example of Mrs. Simpson's [redacted] and [redacted] for the old [redacted] institutions [redacted] suffice [redacted] the point.

The King, impatient and high strung, [redacted] speed when travelling. [redacted] much rather board a 'plane than a train, and the very idea of riding in a barouche driven by four white horses from the railway station [redacted] Balmoral Castle—a custom religiously followed by [redacted] father, appeals him.

When Mrs. Simpson visited him [redacted] Balmoral Castle last, he met her at the station in a big motor-car.

The good villagers did not disguise their resentment. "That's what happens," they said, "when a King of England tries to please [redacted] American woman".

This exact opposite was the truth. Mrs. Simpson registered her disapproval of the long black motor-car the moment she laid her eyes on it.

Born and reared in a part of the United States where they [redacted] the past, she begged his Majesty not to break traditions. He wouldn't listen [redacted] her.

A barouche driven by four white horses [redacted] just as ridiculous [redacted] his estimation as the royal "We" of a King's speeches before the Parliament. He insists [redacted] speed, and [redacted] [redacted] on "I" instead of "We." It [redacted] happens that [redacted] is [redacted] American [redacted] in his likes and dislikes than Mrs. Simpson.

What will [redacted] future historians [redacted] about Mrs. Simpson? Will they accuse her of having hypnotised her royal friend, of having charmed him into complete surrender, [redacted] will they recognise [redacted] no [redacted] [redacted] forty-one could or [redacted] [redacted] charmed a man [redacted] forty-two into complete surrender?

I cannot overstate the importance of this point. Had Mrs. Simpson been a dazzling beauty in her twenties, I would have said, "Oh, well. You know what happens to a man of forty-two, particularly to a middle-aged business-man of forty-two, when he meets a dazzling young beauty." But Mrs. Simpson is forty-one, and even her most enthusiastic friends would not describe her as a "beauty."

I would go further than that, and say that every one of Mrs. Simpson's friends was infinitely more active than Mrs. Simpson.

"You know," said Mrs. Simpson, not so long ago, "I think his Royal Majesty should see a really beautiful woman for a change. He sees entirely too much of me. He deserves a treat."

No sooner said than done. The following week a dazzling beautiful woman was invited to dinner in Mrs. Simpson's house.

Sitting on his Majesty's right, she decided to make the most of this chance. Her technique was superb, her strategy cunning, her attack devastating. She would no doubt have scored a smashing victory, had it not been for one completely unforeseen detail: his Majesty never noticed her.

She could have been a visiting New York alderman inasmuch as he was concerned. All his remarks were addressed to Mrs. Simpson. At this point, "Yes," "No," "I don't know," "You think so?" and he had nothing to say about the dazzling beauty.

Not many women in Mrs. Simpson's place would have risked such a daring experiment; but then, Mrs. Simpson was a woman of the world. Mrs. Simpson's intelligence and talent and friendship.

When [redacted] met her Royal friend [redacted] [redacted] spent [redacted] evening talking with him about gardening [redacted] knitting, [redacted] [redacted] things.

The self-same people who [redacted] around with Mrs. Simpson long before [redacted] thought she would [redacted] meet [redacted] future King of England [redacted] [redacted] her friends.

None of them [redacted] spectacularly rich or unduly famous. They belong [redacted] that upper-middle stratum [redacted] Americans who don't [redacted] in much for "bowing and scraping," and who admire Edward not because he is a Windsor but because they [redacted] he's a regular fellow.

Knowing Mrs. Simpson [redacted] well [redacted] they do, they realise that instead of being a luscious heroine of the Greatest Love Story of the Century, she is merely a frank, outspoken [redacted] who sees no reason why any one should not follow [redacted] [redacted] of his [redacted] her own heart.

They realise likewise that she [redacted] suffering from the defects of her virtues.

Not a schemer, she is tremendously handicapped when it [redacted] [redacted] fighting England's most experienced schemers.

A strong believer in loyalty, she [redacted] and is obliged to keep an uninterrupted silence, although had she chosen to talk [redacted] the [redacted] of her departure from England she could have annihilated her enemies.

From [redacted] [redacted] beginning she made [redacted] clear [redacted] her friends that should her association with the King jeopardise his position [redacted] would [redacted] willing to "step out of [redacted] picture" [redacted] leave England.

Months and months before [redacted] King consented [redacted] [redacted] her go to the French Riviera she was weighing [redacted] advisability [redacted] her further stay [redacted] England.

The [redacted] [redacted] issued [redacted] the Press on December 7, [redacted] slowly crystallising in her mind as far back as last summer when American newspapers began to publish the Edward Wallis photographs.

Even her [redacted] critics are willing to admit that had it [redacted] been for the King and [redacted] determination to fight it [redacted] the British Parliament, the Government, and the good Archbishop of Canterbury could have continued their usual pursuits without giving a moment's thought to the lady residing [redacted] 16, Cumberland-terrace.

Romance of Prince of Wales with the American Wally was being in the [redacted] when January 21, 1936, in London the cry out "The King is dead ; Long live the King."

Prince of Wales under the name of Edward VIII [redacted] the [redacted] [redacted] the death of his father, George V, became his [redacted] oessor. A day later, with traditional pomp and ceremony, Edward VIII [redacted] proclaimed King. Bare-headed and tremulous Londoners heard with emotion the fanfare of trumpet, the thunder of saluting guns, and these the reading of the official proclamation. Bands played [redacted] national anthem and voices [redacted] in chorus ;

"Send him victorious, happy and glorious
Long to reign [redacted] us.

God [redacted] [redacted] King !"

At [redacted] King Edward VIII took [redacted] the duties of states. Everything went [redacted] apparently happy.

The King in his [redacted] radio broadcast in March paid an eloquent [redacted] [redacted] father and then said :

"It [redacted] [redacted] upon me to succeed him and [redacted] on his work.

"I am better known to most of you as the Prince of Wales, the man who, during the and since, has had opportunity getting know people in nearly every country of the world under all conditions and circumstances. And although I now speak to you as King, I am still the man who has had that experience and whose constant effort will be to continue to promote the well-being of my fellowmen.

"May our future bring peace and happiness to the British Empire and we be worthy of the heritage that is over."

So was the King, and his statement gave his subjects a glimpse of the nature of their new monarch.

He was King under the atmosphere not congenial to him. He was single and lived alone. He ascended the British throne unfriended, surrounded by a band of wearied old ministers. He had no love for, nor attentive to, his Premier and he found an enemy in Archbishop. So really he was unfriended and alone. Had he been King during war-time or constitutional crises, those ministers would make friends with him, and otherwise would have happened.

King Edward VIII was, by virtue of his nature and under the influence of his mind, revolted against old ideas, old notion and form of prestige, hide-bound traditional orthodoxy. For such aversion and leaning and pursuits he was in many ways restricted. He objected to and sometime broke restriction for which he was remonstrated with. He was remonstrated with for his leaning, the rebels rebelled against the old ones and ran after new ones.

For the last twenty years the Prince of Wales was restricted constitutionally. His inner self wanted to be free

and simple and live life. Constitutional restrictions, imposed upon him, tried to make royalty aristocratically solitary, vaguely dignified personality a dead life. This when he quite a youth and the most eligible bachelor, royal house in Europe tried best to him netted within the clutches of the of its respective royal princess. all along he kept aloof and withstood manfully all the constitutional restrictions and matrimonial bids of prey. Now a little close upon forty when a man is not considered Edgland he found an oasis in Mrs. Simpson in the of desert he in. Church lost the ground under its feet. Ministers shuddered, Parliament began to shake their head, Mayfair became vociferous, foreign Press resonant, America was clamoring, Europe was enjoying observant.

time the King dismissed his old guards, them disgruntled and in their stead appointed new men of his age having ideas, sense of re-tige and new pulsation of life.

King's week-end dinner at York House Balmoral Castle having Mrs. Simpson a guest, created dissatisfaction in St. James's Place and abhorrence in Church, in Ministry and in English Aristocracy. They went far that such dinners, the Archbishop declined King's invitation to dine with Mrs. Simpson. And King's holiday voyage down Adriatic in Lady Yule's yacht 'Nablin' having Mrs. Simpson in his brought the silent situation a breaking point.

Back in England from voyage the King attended some time his duties in London. Then he proceeded to Balmoral Castle in Scotland. A few days Court Circular appeared, in list of King's guest Balmoral Castle Mrs. Simpson's found.

The news service wired that when Mrs. Simpson and another New York Lady, Mrs. Herman Roger, whose husband Mr. Herman Roger also found in the Court Circular, arrived by train in Aberdeen, the King left station to meet them, having driven 50 miles from Balmoral Castle in his own car.

When a few days after, Mrs. Simpson returned to London she went to her address in Cumberland Terrace. Ernest Simpson had moved also from the Bryanston Court apartment to the Guards club.

It was on October 14, later wire services, familiar with the name of Wallis Simpson, flashed that around the world. Wallis Simpson had a suit for divorce, in ancient Assize Court at Ipswich, England. On October 27, 1936, the case was gone through and Mrs. Simpson obtained decree nisi.

The report that the divorce was granted spread by telegram and wireless and telephone. In the United States the news crowded out the National presidential election and in Europe from the front page. Picture of Mrs. Simpson appeared and banner headlines. Yes, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson were divorced.

As the word spread and the news repeated there newer report—sometimes whispers—sometimes discontinued, then reports continued, grew louder and lastly swelled. The reports: "The King is in love and they will be married. The King is going to make an American his queen."

The whole world was in anxious. Anxious question was heard everywhere, "Will King Edward and Wallis

Simpson married?" The world asks also, if, in such a marriage, Wallis Simpson, American born, will be of England,—and if marriage takes place, will it be solemnized? Who will perform the ceremony? Who will present?

While Wallis Simpson, secure and 16, Cumberland Terrace in Regent's Park, observes the condition of her decree nisi divorce, six months from October 27, 1936, if the King's Proctor finds otherwise, the nisi decree will be more absolute and Wallis Simpson will be free to marry again.

In the case of her being married to King Edward Authority is that there are laws to prevent the ruler from marrying whomever he chooses, as long as the bride is not of Roman Catholic faith. By the Bill of Rights, passed in 1689, King of England who marries a Roman Catholic must surrender the throne to the next Protestant heir.

Here Wallis Simpson is not a Catholic. She is a Commoner, but this is no bar to marriage with royalty in England. Two of King Edward's brothers and his sister Princess Mary have married.

There is a debated question whether or not a marriage between King Edward and Wallis Simpson, a divorcee, could be sanctioned by the church.

Usually the Church of England conducts Royal weddings; it is usually the Archbishop of Canterbury who performs the ceremony. The Archbishop of Canterbury states that, in the case of any person, previously who has been separated by divorce from a husband or wife who is still alive, the marriage should not be solemnized in church.

Many liberal churchmen believe, under certain circumstances, that such marriage may take place.

There ■ no laws ■ make ■ impossible for King Edward and Wallis Simpson to be wedded. But barriers ■ ■ ■ that are stronger than laws—barriers of traditions ; barriers of Empire ; the slender threads binding the crown, that hold together far-flung countries and varied ■ ■ ■ and nations ; political ambitions ; political functions.

Do these barriers appear to be insurmountable ? Has the old order changed, ■ that ■ longer must Kings and Princes, by very virtue of their royal prerogative, lose the rights ■ common men ? These ■ the questions which await ■ ■ ■

Kings have loved before. Kings and queens have loved those from whom they were separated by creed and ■ ■ ■ and station. Kings have lost thrones for a woman's smile and for love of country. They have renounced a lifetime happiness.

There is romance. Romance knows no statutes, ■ pacts, ■ Parliament, no press.

Still one would ask 'Will King Edward marry Wallis Simpson' ? Will she, ■ American woman, be queen of England ■ For an ■ ■ ■ people must look toward Buckingham Palace. Then the world will know if Wallis Simpson ■ to ■ consort to the mightiest ruler on the earth and if she is to ■ ■ ■ a crown.

If there is ■ marriage between King Edward and Wallis Simpson, will Edward the VIII, King of Great Britain and Emperor of India, ■ ■ ■ his throne for love ?

■ ■ love—deep and devout and sincere—between King Edward and Wallis Simpson. And of that the world ■ ■ ■ It is love humane, humanising and ennobling. A devotion that ■ beautiful and overwhelming, of precious men it ■ rare. It touches human lives, transform them by curious ■ ■ ■ phosis and makes ■ those lives ■ sort of poetry.

Wallis Simpson is queen—the queen of romance, of glamor and the unfulfilled longings of a love-starved world. She is the queenly heroine of a love story that touching the —Edward VIII, monarch of the British Empire and Wallis Simpson of America—touches millions—leaving a live poetry —love —humaniser ennobles the present and the future.

Merged King Edward VIII out of the business, the art and merit of which — through out far from being clear and understandable — the people, on the 11th day of December, one thousand nine hundred and thirtyseventh year — His Grace. The affair — be very trifling, but the lesson is solid, in — much — that joy and laughter dewed this side—the solemn and restricted existence of Royalty. The outcome of this pathetic — was not so remarkable — this — wholly to be expected ; but the fact that in — which — supposed to be — of enlightenment, a King — called to task by his ministers, and a Defender of faith — decried by his — who — appointed — ministry, not for his dissolute and reprehensible conduct, but merely because he wanted to — he loved.

In making perparation for bringing such a — to an end no — left unturned, — gossip, talk, party meetings, publications—all vied with — another, — riot in combination — the atmosphere which could not but produce such end.

King's every piece of — daily reward — commented upon. Mrs. Simpson's palatial home — 16, Cumberland Terrace, her Jewellery, dress, belongings, servants were compared and commented — The King's every item of — Mrs. Simpson was taken to be — much as —

arduous youth of riches to his mistress. The whole atmosphere of England ■■■ embodied with ■ kind of fobia. Nothing on the earth could be compared with this ■■■ of the King Edward VIII. Russia could take the world within the hollow of her Communist palm, Italy could beat the breast of the earth with her fascist shoe, she could reduce Abyssinia ■ shambles, Hitler could wrench back less their colonies, Japan could scatter China, General Franco could deluge Spain with her own blood, De Valera could take anchor out of Ireland, Japan, Germany, Italy could ■■■ the League of Nations but these ■■■ nothing in compared with the possibility of Mrs. Simpson's becoming the queen ■ England.

While British Press maintained an austere silence, America awoke daily to a fresh sensation. One headline after another screamed till "King might quit throne to wed Walli. Simpson Divorce excites London." Thus the American Press put ■ King of England and Mrs. Simpson on the spot—and there they kept them.

During this time, the Cabinet ministers, members of Parliament and other English notabilities, ■ they confessed to the fact later on, ■■■ being deluged with cuttings from the American Press. Still however British Press continued ■ be stolidly silent. Mayfair began to talk about ■■ then the centre of interest ■■ transferred to Ipswich where Mrs. Simpson's divorce proceedings against her husband ■■■ being heard ■ Sept. 27.

Just before the divorce the Journal of Mr. William Randolph Hearst blazoned ■■■ the continent from ■ Atlantic ■ Pacific that "within a few days Mrs. Ernest Simpson of

Baltimore, U. S. A. will obtain her decree in England and some eight months thereafter will be married to Edward VIII, King of England."

Twenty-seven minutes' proceedings of divorce suit spread columns of the American Press while British newspapers confined report to a few lines lurking in obscure columns. They did not mention it at all. Early in November American clippings were pouring in to make up in Mayfair for what British editors had missed. The story spread through London and Westminster. Members of Parliament, Public officials, journalists besieged the bookstalls for foreign journals, but they in number were not adequate to meet the demand. Buyers found that even if they were fortunate to get copies they did not contain the precious news-story for which they had been bought. The journals were sold to the public with the offending passages deleted or with the wanted pages missing. This continued for weeks and buyers cried out against the unofficial censorship. One complaint soon pushed its way into Parliamentary Lobbies.

By mid-November considerable section in London's political and religious circles were athirst for news. The ban on foreign papers and the prolonged silence of the British Press was discussed in private party meetings. On November 17, the matter was brought to a head in the House of Commons when Mr. Adamson asked the President of the Board of Trade "Whether there is any special scrutiny of book and printed matter imported from other countries, and whether he can state the quantities and value, respectively, of scientific, historical, and artistic books, in addition to novels, which are imported from the United States of America during the last full year available."

Mr. Runciman: "It is not clear what exactly the Hon. member has in mind. If he give particulars either me or my right honourable friend, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, inquiries will be made, and he will be informed of the result. As regards the second part of the question, I regret the information asked for is not available, as books of the kinds mentioned are not separately distinguished in the official records."

Mr. Adamson: "Is the right Hon. gentleman aware that a considerable quantity of such literature is coming into this country, and that it is mentioned in the statistical returns of his own Department, and can he give any information as to the types of literature that does come in?"

Mr. Runciman: "I am afraid that I cannot go further than which I have already given to the House."

Miss Wilkinson: "Can the right honourable gentleman say why, in the case of two American magazines of high repute, imported into this country during the last few weeks, at least two, and sometimes three, pages have been torn out, and what is this thing—the British public are not allowed to see?"

Mr. Runciman: "My department has nothing to do with that."

Mr. Rathbone: "May I ask my right honourable friend whether the magazines referred to are seriously considered as being of high repute?"

This interrogation though it may allay the ban exercised by the wholesaler clearly showed the House lining upon the unofficial censorship. And it is such scrutiny of incoming journals was continued.

The King and Premier

It was on October 20, ~~seven~~ days before the divorce action, Mr. Baldwin sought and secured ~~the~~ first audience of the King concerning the ~~present~~ situation which might arise from His Majesty's association with Mrs. Simpson. Mr. Baldwin has told of this highly important meeting. It ~~was~~ then plain ~~that~~ the Cabinet was growing uneasy ~~over~~ the spread ~~of~~ ~~with~~ in America.

For some days the Premier had been perturbed by the news of Mrs. Simpson obtaining decree Nisi. Now he heard ~~at~~ Buckingham Palace of the King's intention.

Mr. Baldwin as he ~~will~~ subsequently in Parliament, did ~~not~~ ~~press~~ the King for any ~~kind~~ of an answer to suggestion ~~and~~ he discuss the ~~matter~~ again until November 16, when the king ~~met~~ for Mr. Baldwin ~~on~~ the eve of ~~his~~ departure ~~for~~ South Wales. Mr. Baldwin told His Majesty that he did not ~~think~~ ~~that~~ a particular marriage ~~was~~ ~~one~~ that would receive ~~the~~ approbation of the country, for ~~the~~ marriage which the King had in mind involved ~~the~~ question of the lady becoming Queen ~~of~~ England.

Now ~~there~~ a fateful ~~moment~~ in the history of ~~the~~ country presented ~~itself~~ The King in answer to ~~the~~ Prime-~~Minister's~~ advice said, "I am going ~~to~~ marry Mrs. Simpson ~~and~~ I am prepared ~~to~~ go" ~~and~~ with ~~the~~ pretentious ~~statement~~ Mr. Baldwin ~~went~~ back ~~to~~ Downing ~~Street~~.

Events by ~~this~~ time began to ~~move~~ swiftly. ~~The~~ ~~King~~ ~~was~~ back again in London ~~from~~ his ~~South~~ Wales ~~trip~~ in

November 20, and on Wednesday, November, 25, "The King" for Prime Minister and asked him if he considered the alternative of Mrs. Simpson becoming his wife but not consort. Mr. Baldwin answered that he had not considered it formally, but if the King wished he would submit the proposal to the Cabinet, and communicate the Prime Ministers of the Dominion Governments. The King then said he wished.

Mr. Baldwin put King's wish before his colleagues at a hurriedly convened Cabinet meeting on Friday, November 27, nothing of which was heard then.

Next Tuesday, December 1, Dr. Alfred Walter Frank Blunt, the Bishop of Bradford addressing his Diocesan Conference at Bradford said, "The benefit of the King's Coronation depends, under God, upon three elements—first on the faith, prayer and self-dedication of the King himself—and on that it would be improper for me to say anything except commend him, and ask you to commend him, to God's grace which we will all abundantly need, as we all need it—for the King is like ourselves if he is to do his duty faithfully. We hope that he is aware of his need. Some of us wish that we gave more positive signs of our sympathy."

General feeling about the Bishop's speech was that it had been levelled against the King, and the public welcomed the raising of the personal aspect of the situation in which the King now found himself.

Following the chorus from the provinces staggered to the Parliament and the Fleet Street. The London Journals appreciated the fact that the Cabinet meeting of Friday, November 27, lasting from 11 A. M. to 1-50 P. M. was of far-reaching importance and that Mr. Baldwin was the King that same evening. And whisper goes

Manchester Guardian, in its issue of the 2nd December, openly stated it as a constitutional issue. The paper said: ".....there is no doubt that the hastily summoned Cabinet meeting of Friday was concerned not with the troubles of Europe, but with a domestic problem which involves an important constitutional issue, since it bears on the relation of the King to his Ministers and his readiness to be guided, in all matters which may affect the welfare of the British Commonwealth by the advice which the Prime Minister is fit to offer."

At long last the problems that were troubling and involved the public had gained light. Conjecture and rumour were now being confirmed by fact. Sir John Simon, then acting Lord Chancellor, was holding frequent discussion with the Premier. Long meeting on Thursday evening of the senior members of the Government listened to the supposition that important developments were to be forthcoming.

Wednesday, the 2nd December, saw a noticeable change in London. Stock Exchange reacted to the situation. Buying prices fell some ten points below the previous day's quotations. Industrial and miscellaneous markets were also comparably affected. The absence of any great offering of sterling from abroad indicated that the decline was of domestic origin. The story was in a flood by Thursday, December 3. This was the day on which the crisis began. The matter which so long excited profound interest in select circles, now became a matter of general concern.

As the excitement was developing, the press began to take sides. Majority of the Press was criticising Bishop Hurd for what was alleged was interference in the King's Private Affairs.

The News Chronical suggested that the King through the proposed marriage the Duke of Cornwall. The Daily Telegraph hoped that the King would renounce Mrs. Simpson. Daily Herald assuming Cabinet's advice against the marriage fully supported the Government. was also the leaning of other national journals. There remarkable unanimity in opinion though implicit, that proposed marriage should not take place.

Now Col. Josiah Wedgwood's following motion was found on order Thursday morning :

"In the opinion of this House, the oath of allegiance which they have already taken to King VIII unaffected by any form of Coronation ceremony, or by the there at, or absence, therefrom, of any dignitary or whatsoever ; nor will they substitute and other for the King of England."

This motion of the Hon'ble Gallant Col. and was of very much significance. As much as raised the constitutional aspect of the King and his relation to Parliament regarding both of allegiance to the King Edward and a timely warning to the House against unmasked interference of Archbishop of Canterbury King's private affairs, since brought to the surface rumours long simmering in the lobbies from when American Press published a story the Archbishop of Canterbury declined to dine with King in company with Mrs. Simpson and had intended to participate in the Coronation King association Mrs. Simpson.

From now Mr. Baldwin began his preparation to get a smooth passage for King's exit. This Thursday afternoon he went to the House of Commons to answer a pre-arranged question of Mr. Attlee, the leader of the Labour Opposition, in the matter of a hint of cheering.

Mr. Attlee: "May I ask the Prime Minister the following question, to which I have given him private notice—namely, whether any constitutional difficulties have arisen, and whether the Government intend to make a statement on this?"

Mr. Baldwin: "I have no statement to make to-day, but while there does not at present exist any constitutional difficulty, the situation is of such a nature as to make it inexpedient that I should be questioned about it at this time."

Mr. Attlee: "May I ask the right hon. gentleman whether in view of the anxiety that these reports are causing in the minds of many people, he can assure the House that he will make a statement at the earliest possible time that a statement can be made?"

Mr. Baldwin: "I can assure the right hon. gentlemen that all that is in my mind I have very much in mind."

Mr. Churchill: "Will my right hon. friend give me an assurance that no irrevocable step will be taken before a formal statement is made to Parliament?"

Mr. Baldwin: "I have nothing to add to the statement I have made at the present moment, I will consider the question that my right hon. friend has asked."

Business of the Parliament and as well as the country obviously was in a state of confusion. The question of the King was now the vital factor. Firstly, the hint of abdication

slowly ~~came~~ over the House of Parliament. It was ~~now~~ noticed ~~that~~ the constitution and the monarchy could again be made a living issue. The hint found its way into press and soon overflowed the country. ~~The~~ ~~men~~ women grew anxious as to what decision would be arrived at by the King Emperor ~~in~~ dissociation the lady he was in love with or a union with Mrs. Simpson and abdication of the throne.

That evening in the week Premier paid his third visit to the Palace. After Mr. Baldwin had withdrawn at 10 P.M. the King went to Marlborough House to see Queen Mary and the Duke and Duchess of York, along with the other brothers, Dukes of Gloucester and Kent. After leaving his mother he returned to the Palace and then left for Fort Belvedere where he had a long consultation with the Keeper of the Privy Seal, Purves Major Ulick Alexander, Col. Hon. Piers Legh his equerry, and Sir Good-Frey Thomas, the Assistant Private Secretary. He also took farewell of Mrs. Simpson who was to leave for France next day.

On the side of the Government, the members and the Dominions High Commissioners were holding consultation that evening and the opinions of the Dominion Premiers were also reaching London.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Prime Minister, said: "I do not intend to be drawn into any discussion on this all-important subject by replying to what are unwarrantable rumours." It was obvious that MacDonald was easily offended, and he contains a large proportion of people to whom divorce is abhorrent.

The Australian Federal Council viewed the situation with perturbation, and Mr. Lyons refused to make any statement.

Nervousness had maintained itself in the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, and the Cape Argus hoped that "uneasiness and anxiety would be happily resolved."

And the Melbourne Argus gave out the feelings of British subjects beyond Seas.

"The King" it said, "is a man among men, a soldier and a comrade. It is impossible, however, to dissociate personal properties from kingly responsibilities. The Throne is sanctified by tradition that is in Britain's fibre. Its march must be continuous at a high level of conduct ever illumined with the burnished light of sacrifice." In London excitement as the day moved on to 11 o'clock when Mr. Baldwin was expected to make his statement.

At 11 P. M. Mr. Attlee told Mr. Baldwin if he had any more to say to make. And Mr. Baldwin replied he follows the crowded and expectant atmosphere.

"In view of widely circulated suggestions as to certain possibilities in the event of the King's marriage, I think it advisable to make a statement,

"Suggestions have appeared in certain organs of the Press yesterday, and again to-day, that, if the King decided to marry, his wife need not become Queen. These ideas are without foundation. There is no such thing as what is calledmorganatic marriage known to our law.

"The Royal Marriages Act of 1772 has no application to the Sovereign himself, its only effect is that the marriage of any member of the Royal Family is null and void unless the Sovereign's assent, declared under the Great Seal, is obtained.

obtained. This Act, therefore, has nothing to do with the present case. The King himself requires no sanction from any other authority to make his marriage legal.

"But, as I have said, the lady whom he marries, by the time of her marriage to the King, necessarily becomes Queen, and herself therefore enjoys all the status, rights, and privileges which both by positive law and by custom attached to that position, and with which we are familiar in the case of her Majesty Queen Alexandra and her Majesty Queen Mary, and her children would be in the Direct succession to the Throne.

"The only way to which this result could be avoided would be by legislation dealing with a particular case. His Majesty's Government are not prepared to introduce such legislation.

"Moreover, the matters to be dealt with are of common concern to the Commonwealth as a whole, and such a change could not be effected without the assent of all the Dominions. I am satisfied from inquiries I have made, that such assent would not be forthcoming.

"I have felt it right to make this statement before the House adjourns to-day, in order to remove a widespread misunderstanding. At this moment I have no other statement to make.

After this statement which was the decision of the Cabinet which dismissed the question of morganatic marriage for ever. Mr. Baldwin had another audience of the King at Fort Belvedere lasting for an hour, of which he made a report to his Cabinet the next morning, Saturday.

This was the issue—the marriage. And the other—the abdication.

On December 4, Friday evening, the Arch Bishop of Canterbury made a prayer to His Majesty to over-rule King's Decision for the lasting good of the Realm and Empire in the shape of a statement issuing :-

"At this moment of deep anxiety and bewilderment in the public mind I venture to express two earnest hopes.

"The first is that, during this critical week-end, and especially on Sunday, those who have a duty to speak to the people from the pulpit or otherwise will refrain from speaking directly on the matters which have arisen affecting the King himself and his subjects.

"Words spoken with imperfect knowledge of an extremely difficult situation will give no helpful guidance, and may only mislead or confuse public thought and feeling. It is therefore fitting until the ultimate decisions are made known.

"Secondly, I hope, and indeed I take it for granted, that on Sunday prayers will be offered in all our churches, and surely they must be continually offered in the hearts of all Christian people, that God in these momentous hours over-rule the decisions of the King and of his Government for the lasting good of the Realm and Empire."

There in Fleet Street the papers of Lord Beaverbrook, even those of Lord Rothermer's group, were divided in their opinion which, long unanimous to support the Cabinet, Daily Express, Daily Mail, Evening Standard, Evening News began to criticise Mr. Baldwin and strongly resented any solution that might cost the country her King Edward.

On the other hand it was known clearly that the Government had the full backing of all the Dominion Governments and that they were sure there was no possibility of compromise.

Saturday Dec. 5, Mr. Churchill held a meeting outside Parliament and his following momentous statement in Press.

"I plead for time and patience. The nation must realise the character of the constitutional issue. There is no possibility of any conflict between the King and Parliament. Parliament has not been consulted in any way, nor allowed to express any opinion.

"The question is whether the King is to abdicate upon the advice of the Ministry of the day. No such advice has ever before been tendered to a Sovereign in Parliamentary times.

"This is not a case where differences have arisen between the Sovereign and his Ministers on any particular subject. These could certainly be resolved by normal processes of Parliament or dissolution.

"In this case we are in presence of a wish expressed by the Sovereign to perform an act which in no circumstances can be accomplished for nearly five months, and which conceivably, for various reasons, never be accomplished at all.

"That, on such a hypothetical and suppositious basis, the sacrifice of abdication and potential exile of the Sovereign should be demanded, finds no support whatever in British constitution. No Ministry has the authority to advise the abdication of the Sovereign. Only the serious Parliamentary majority could even raise the issue in a decisive form.

"The Cabinet has no right to prejudge such a question having previously ascertained at the very least the will of Parliament. This could, perhaps, be obtained by

messages from the Sovereign to Parliament, and by addresses of the Houses after due consideration of these messages.

"For the Sovereign is incontinent in the present circumstances would inflict an injury upon the constitutional position of the monarchy which is measureless and cannot fail to be grievous to the institution itself, irrespective of the existing occupant of the Throne.

"Parliament would also be entirely in its duty if it allowed such an event to pass as the signing of an abdication in the face of the advice of Ministers without taking all precautions to make sure that these proceedings may not be repeated with equal uncanny facility at no distant date in unforeseen circumstances. Clearly time is needed for such a thing constitutional debate.

"The next question is—What has the King done? If it be true, as is alleged, that the King has proposed to his Ministers legislation which they are not prepared to introduce, the duty of Ministers should be not to call for abdication, but to refuse it upon the King's request, which thereupon becomes inoperative.

"If the King refuses to take the advice of his Ministers they are, of course, free to resign. They have a right whatever be put pressure upon him to accept their advice by soliciting beforehand support from the Leader of the Opposition. This will not form an alternative Administration in the event of the King's resignation, and thus confronting him with an ultimatum. Again, there is time and patience.

"Why cannot time be granted? The King is beyond the King's power to accomplish the purpose which is intended.

until the end of April, surely strips the matter of constitutional urgency.

"There may be some inconvenience, but that inconvenience stands on a different plane altogether from the constitutional issues I have set forth.

"National and Imperial considerations require that before such a dread step as a demand for abdication is taken, not only should the constitutional position be newly defined by Parliament, but that every method should be exhausted which gives the hope of a happier solution.

"Lastly, surely not least, there is the human and personal aspect.

"The King has been for many weeks under the greatest strain, moral and mental, that can fall upon a man. Not only has he been inevitably subjected to the extreme strain of his public duty, but also to the agony of his personal feelings.

"Surely, if he asks for time to consider the advice of his Ministers, that length of time which has been brought to this dire culmination, he should not be denied.

"Howsoever the matter may turn, it is a pregnant calamity and inseparable from inconvenience. All the evil aspects will be aggravated beyond measure if the chivalry and compassion is not shown, both by Ministers and by the British nation, towards a gifted and beloved King, between private and public obligations of love and duty.

"The Churches stand for charity. They believe in the efficacy of prayer. Surely their influence should oppose a period of reflection. I plead, I trust, that tolerance will not be denied.

"The King has no means of personal access to his Parliament or to the people. Between him and them stand in their way the Ministers of the Crown. If they thought it their duty to oppose all their power and influence against him, they must remain silent.

"All must they be careful not to judge in their own way and to show a loyal and Christian patience even in some political embarrassment to themselves.

"If an abdication were to be hastily extorted the outrage so committed would cast its shadow forward across many chapters of the history of the British Empire."

Baldwin Busy

Saturday, Dec. 5, was a crowded day for Mr. Baldwin. He held his Cabinet meeting for forty-five minutes, then he had three consultations with Sir John Simon lasting nearly for three hours. That evening he had an audience of the King for an hour and a quarter. This was the first audience of the week, he went back to Downing Street and arranged for a sitting of the Cabinet meeting on Sunday evening.

Sunday evening papers informed the public that the senior ministers met in a specially summoned meeting that morning. Mr. Baldwin left the meeting to consult Queen Mary and after half an hour's consultation he went to his colleagues. It was observable that Donald Somerwell, the Attorney General, though a member of Cabinet, attended the meeting apparently to offer to the Cabinet his legal advice, as it was significant that he dined with Mr. Baldwin, the previous evening.

Before this meeting began Mr. W. I. Monckton K. G., Attorney-General of the Duchy Cornwall, had been in consultation with the Premier. He had been constantly travelling between Downing Street and Fort Belvedere for the few days and had a long audience of the King and interviews with Mr. Baldwin.

That afternoon the Arch Bishop of Canterbury visited 10, Downing Street which was a demonstration to the King and his wife. The Cabinet met at 5 P.M. and continued until 7 P.M. an hour before the arrival of Mr.

Monckton re-appeared ■ 10, Downing Street from Fort Belvedere in one of ■ King's cars.

The King ■ stayed ■ Fort Belvedere ■ week-end. All afternoon motorists, pulling up outside the gate of the Fort, cried "God ■ king."

■ papers, notably 'Daily Mirror' ■ vaguely suggested ■ "King party" in the Parliament. It ■ suggested that ■ impressions had gathered about the relations between His Majesty ■ the Prime Minister, chief of them ■ that Mr. Baldwin ■ been tendering advice which amounted almost to an ultimatum involving either the abdication ■ the resignation of the Government. Such development ■ no doubt implicit in the situation, but in spite of Mr. Churchill's criticism that the Cabinet behaved unreasonably, ■ important section ■ the Press who ■ all along backing ■ Premier insisted that the advice given ■ the King ■ only that which he had sought for, they did not entertain the idea that His Majesty ■ being hastened to ■ decision.

House of Commons met in the afternoon. And ■ crowded chamber into which the Prime Minister had entered amid cheers—Colonel Josiah Wedgwood asked if he would be given an early opportunity ■ discuss the motion in his ■

Mr. Baldwin said. "No, sir."

"Arising ■ of that answer," cried Colonel Wedgwood, "May I ask ■ right honourable gentleman whether ■ can ■ least give us an ■ the fatal step of abdication ■ acceptance ■ abdication"—

In ■ Parliament was heard for the ■ time ■ word "abdication."

Mr, ■ and put ■ question :

"May I ask the Prime Minister whether he has anything to add to the statement which he made on Friday?"

Mr. Baldwin: "Yes, sir. I am glad to have the occasion of making a further statement on the position".

"In considering the whole matter it has always been, and remains, the earnest desire of the Government to afford to His Majesty the fullest opportunity of weighing a decision which involves so directly his future happiness and the interests of all his subjects.

"At the same time they cannot but be aware that any considerable prolongation of the present state of suspense and uncertainty would involve risk of the gravest injury to national and imperial interests, and indeed no one is so insistent upon this aspect of the situation than His Majesty.

"In view of certain statements which have been made about the relations between the Government and the King, I should add that, with the exception of the question of morganatic marriage, no advice has been tendered by the Government to His Majesty, with whom all our conversations have been strictly personal and informal.

"The matters were not raised first by the Governments, but by His Majesty himself, in conversation with me some weeks ago when he first informed me of his intention to marry Mrs. Simpson whenever she should be free.

The subject has therefore been for some time in the King's mind, and as soon as His Majesty has arrived at a conclusion as to the course he desires to take, he will, without doubt, communicate it to his Governments in this country and the Dominions.

"It will then be for those Governments to decide what advice, if any, they would tender him in view of his conclusion.

"I conclude statement without expressing—what the whole House feels—our deep and respectful sympathy with His Majesty at this time."

Mr. Baldwin resumed his seat amid a shower of cheers and applause.

"Everyone will agree with the sympathy expressed by the Prime Minister in the last words of the statement. I am assuming from the statement that His Majesty has not yet come to a decision on the advice tendered to him as to a morganatic marriage, and if this is so it is difficult to press the Prime Minister for a further explanation at the present time."

"But I would like to ask him to bear in mind, as I am sure he does, that the House and the country is deeply anxious to receive the latest information as soon as possible, and without it is not possible to have any proper discussion on the issue."

The Premier replied :

"I am obliged to the right hon. gentleman for the point he has put, and I am grateful to him. I agree with every word of what he says. I shall be only too glad at a suitable moment to give the House any information I am able to, and I am always willing to answer supplementary questions, I think the whole House will agree with me that at this moment the situation is a grave and serious one while the King is considering the matter and has not yet made up his mind, I should find great difficulty in offering suggestions and answering supplementary questions, especially when considering the answers I shall have to give, will have to be improvised."

At the first opportunity Mr. Churchill rose to put the supplementary question which he requested an opportunity

that an irrevocable step would be taken. He was met with a roar of "Order" "Sit down" and "Shut up."

He was patently taken aback and standing discussion was impossible and he resumed his seat, with a mild rebuke from the Speaker.

After Mr. George Lambert has assured Mr. Baldwin that "there is in the House deep personal sympathy with him", Mr. Baldwin, now looking directly at Mr. Churchill, said: "I do not know yet, but I cannot say yet, what the King will decide or how he may decide to act. It is quite impossible for me to enter upon hypothetical question."

When Mr. Baldwin sat down, Mr. Gallagher rose to his place and put a supplementary question which met with great show of comment later. He said: "I would like to ask the Prime Minister if it is not the case that this crisis requires a deeper action in the economic system?"

And Mr. Baldwin carried off but a small fraction of the applause which he deserved.

A similar statement was communicated to a small group in the House of Lords by Halifax in the same afternoon.

It was clear from the above statement which Mr. Baldwin made on the floor of the House of Commons that Mr. Baldwin was a past master in handling the situation. His masterly move veered round all the opposition to his side. When Mr. Churchill rose in his position to put supplementary question requesting that an irrevocable step would be taken, he was only ordered, with a roar, to sit up. Still he was steering though discussion became impossible. He was made to resume his seat by the Speaker with a rebuke. The Monday afternoon was important and that is the point which Mr. Baldwin scored without any loss in respect of throwing

light ■■■ King's intention. Nevertheless Mr. Baldwin ■■■ able ■■ convince the country, ■■■ Cabinet ■■■ guilty of nothing precipitate and that His Majesty was being given full opportunity ■■ ■■■ to a considered decision. And he also removed ■■■ fears of many who had before protested ■■■ the personal ■■■ of the King might be dragged into political arena. And ■■■ King appeared ■■ ■■ left before the ■■■ of his people to ■■ in sole charge of his destiny. Even it went so far and dispelled the idea, that ■■■ on foot, that Mr. Attlee, leader of the opposition, had been approached and ■■■ given an undertaking ■■■ to form ■■ Government in the ■■■ of Mr. Baldwin resigning. The general feeling of relief came down upon the opposition benches that Mr. Baldwin's handling of the situation had been masterly, and ■■ it would continue. Mr. Churchill had ceased ■■ rise again in opposition and the talk of King's party came ■■ and end. Opposition ■■■ pacified and mass made to support the Government. This added to the laurel of Baldwin. Smooth and calm; only the issue of abdication has got to ■■ pushed through.

Yet, then ■■■ popular mind questioned ■■ to whether the King might decline ■■ make his choice between the marriage and ■■■ Crown ■■ might insist, ■■ there ■■■ no precedent against him that ■■ ■■■ constitutionall entitled ■■ select his ■■■ wife and retain his Crown but that mattered little.

There ■■■ also a strong suggestion ■■■ ■■ acrimonious feeling was greatly prevailing between the King and the Church, the King and ■■■ Ministers and ■■■ or all ■■■ ■■ questions, public and private. But ■■■ was given ■■■ saying that ■■ suggestion came ■■ being ■■■ ■■ Government's tardiness in revealing ■■ ■■■ and ■■ long-continued silence of ■■ Press.

The **King** awaits

There at Fort Belvedere the King was awaiting the issue, Mr. Monckton K. G. who left fort Belvedere in a royal **car** for Buckingham Palace and with Sir Edward Peacock, Receiver-general of the Duchy of Lancaster, conferred with the **King** of the King's household. Later he **was** in consultation with Mr. Baldwin for over two hours, Mr. **Monckton** came back to No. 10 Downing Street **at** 9 O'clock from the House of Commons to receive **his** visitors who **were** in a Palace car. It was assumed **that** **one** of them was the King's Secretary. **That** night also Duke of York **was** with the King **at** Fort Belvedere.

There then **came** from Cannes the report that Lord Bronslow read the following **statement** by Mrs. Simpson, to a body of journalists.

"Mr. Simpson" the statement announced, "throughout the last few weeks has invariable wished to avoid any action **on** **my** proposal which would hurt or damage His Majesty **on** the Throne.

"To-day her attitude is unchanged, and **she** **is** willing, if such action would solve the problem, to withdraw forthwith from **a** situation **in** **which** has been rendered unhappy and untenable."

Despite **her** redeeming features **she** **was** releasing on all sides, Tuesday, December 8, was **a** day of great suspense. **Mr.** Baldwin. Sir John Simon spent two hours together **with** Sir Samuel **Hoare** **was** present at most of this discussion. Mr. Baldwin lunched **with** Lord Halifax who **was** **in** **the** for the

Government in the Upper House and did not appear in the Lower House that day.

Mr. Alden in that afternoon put his question: "Has the Prime Minister anything to say to the Commons of yesterday?" Mr. John Simon, member of the Prime Minister who was absent from the House, replied that he had nothing further to say.

Now the crisis was the main topic in the Parliamentary lobbies. Everyone freely predicted that the King would abdicate. On Tuesday the Parliamentary Labour party was to consider the situation. Though no vote was taken the great majority of the party approved the action of the Government. The last opposition not only against themselves but naturally was in support of the Government.

All eyes were now on Mr. Baldwin. He, in the evening, went to Fort Belvedere at 5-15 P. M. with Mr. Monckton, K. G. for his sixth audience of the King, and had been with the King till 10 P. M. He there dined with the King, the Duke of York and the Duke of Kent who had been with the King from mid-day.

While Mr. Baldwin was in audience of the King, Mr. John Simon here at Dowding Street had been impatiently waiting for the Prime Minister's return. Mr. Simon came home at 11 O'clock and kept Mr. John Simon waiting an hour.

Later on the King's Private Secretary, major Hordling drove to Lambeth Palace to meet the Prime Minister Dr. Cosmo Long.

In the meantime the Irish Premier was anxiously awaiting the decision of the British Parliament, announced that if the British Parliament resigns, the Government of the Dominions would follow suit.

The [redacted] [redacted] in which [redacted] whole Empire was thrown could not [redacted] longer prolonged. A week in [redacted] for [redacted] millions [redacted] broken, but the inevitable delay made, [redacted] Press speak of the abdication.

The rapid [redacted] of the happenings took place.

9 a. m.—Sir Godfrey Thomas and Mr. Monckton [redacted] Fort Belvedere.

10 a. m.—Sir John Simon arrived [redacted] Downing [redacted] for a conversation with the Premier prior to [redacted] Cabinet Meeting. Mr. [redacted] present.

11 a. m.—The Cabinet [redacted] and was told of the King's decision.

11-12 a. m.—Mr. Monckton and Sir Edward Peacock, Receiver-General [redacted] the Duchy of Cornwall, [redacted] Downing [redacted] and [redacted] to the Buckingham Palace where they [redacted] [redacted] consultation with the members of the King's [redacted]

12 noon—Mr. Monckton and [redacted] Edward Peacock returned [redacted] 10 Downing Street.

1. 15 p. m.—The Cabinet meeting ended.

1. 52 p. m.—Sir Edward Peacock and Mr. Monckton [redacted] Downing [redacted] together.

2. 20 p. m.—Sir John Simon and Mr. Malcolm, MacDonald [redacted] Downing [redacted] and walked [redacted] to [redacted] Dominion's [redacted] John Simon left Mr. MacDonald there.

Mr. Baldwin reads out the fateful document. The Abdication

The world which had retired to bed on Wednesday night in anxious expectation got up Monday morning to hear the abdication of King Edward VII. An unparalleled thing happened in an unparalleled way. A bloodless revolution came in and took places without coming through the red current. Long and long consultation, entered by small constitutional debates, or at number at interval, carried the affair of great political import through. The reigning King abdicated, and abdicated in favour of the man next to him in the line of succession to the throne in an irrevocable manner dismissing every other claim of any one of his own line. The Premier read the abdication to his Parliament where he is not permitted to go. Another Parliament gave to it a constitutional form that is appropriate.

Morning papers of Thursday gave out news of abdication. From the morning, persons who played important roles in the Drama were seen moving about. All interests centered in White Hall, where a meeting held with the Dominion Secretary, Lord Privy Seal and all legal formalities, settled that he placed to the King in the Royal Household.

Throughout the day till the House of Commons met in the afternoon White Hall was in a great animation. In the morning up and down of comings and goings, Mr. Baldwin was seen to leave for the Commons a little before a quarter of three.

There was a make in the day. Crowds gathered in White Hall and the House of Parliament. The room was packed in their suffocation. Peers,

distinguished visitors, Diplomats crowded themselves in the Chamber; the Chamber itself was overflowed with all sorts of members.

The Speaker took the chair and called the first question which the House had to propose.

After the first question had been put and answered up, rose Mr. Baldwin in the impatient House, went to the Bar of the House and bowed low to the Speaker. In the same scenes he began the proceedings.

"A Message from His Majesty the King, signed by His Majesty's own hand" he said.

As Mr. Baldwin walked towards the Speaker, holding the fateful document—three foolscap sheets stamped with a red seal—he stopped a bow and then, until, with another bow he handed the document to the Speaker.

Those members who were covered bared their heads. Captain Fitzroy, the Speaker, began to read the words written on the pages which he held in his trembling hand.

His Majesty's Message

"After long and anxious consideration, I have determined to ascend the throne to which I succeeded on the death of my father, and I am now communicating to you my final and irrevocable decision. Realising as I do the gravity of this step, I can only hope that I shall have the understanding of my people in the decision I have taken and the success which will attend it.

"I will not enter now into my private feelings, but I would say that it should be remembered that the burden which constantly rests upon the shoulders of a sovereign is a heavy one and can only be borne in circumstances different from those in which I now find myself.

"I conceive that I am not overlooking the duty that calls me to place in the forefront the public interest when I declare that I am conscious that I can no longer discharge this heavy task with efficiency or with satisfaction to myself. I have accordingly this morning executed an instrument of abdication in the terms following:

"I, Edward VIII of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Emperor of India, do hereby declare my irrevocable determination to renounce the Throne for myself and for my descendants and my duties shall forthwith be given to the next person of abdication immediately.

"In token whereof I have herewith set my hand this 10th day of December, 1936, in the presence of the witnesses whose signatures are subscribed.

(Signed) Edward R. I.

INSTRUMENT OF ABDICATION

I, Edward the Eighth, of Great Britain, Ireland, and the British Dominions beyond the seas, King, Emperor of India, do hereby declare My irrevocable determination to renounce the Throne for Myself and for My descendants, and My desire that effect should be given to this Instrument of abdication immediately.

In token whereof I have hereunto set My hand this tenth day of December, nineteen hundred and thirty six, in the presence of the witnesses whose signatures are subscribed.

SIGNED
FORT BELVEDERE
IN THE PRESENCE
OF

EDWARD R. I.

Albert
Henry
George

"My execution of this business has been witnessed by my three brothers, **THE** Royal Highnesses the Duke of York, the Duke of Gloucester and **the** Duke of Kent.

"I deeply appreciate the **many** **times** has **many** **times** appeals **which** have been made to me to take a different decision, and I have, before reaching my final determination, **been** fully pondered over them. **But** my mind is made up. Moreover, **any** delay cannot **be** **so** **much** injurious to the people whom I have tried to serve as Prince of Wales and as King and whose future happiness and prosperity are the constant wish of my heart.

"I **will** **my** leave of them in the confident hope **that** the course which I have thought it right to follow is that which is best for the stability of the throne and empire and the happiness of my people. I am deeply **grateful** **for** the consideration which they have always **shown** to me, both **before** and after my accession to the throne, and which I know they will extend in full measure to my **successors**.

"I am **very** anxious **that** **there** should be no delay of any kind in giving effect to the **instructions** which I have executed, and **that** all **necessary** **steps** should be taken immediately to **ensure** that my lawful **successor**, my brother; His Royal Highness the Duke of York, should ascend the Throne."

Edward R. I.

Then the House of Commons of England rose up in a deep silence, to receive his motion. "That His Majesty's grace be considered."

In a House he spoke extempore, he spoke deliberately. His considered deliberate speech for a moment showed no sign of nervousness. It was really a moment for him, because he told in full the story—how his King had married a lady, whom he loved and whom the English people and Dominions did not wish her to become Queen, but by the fact of her marriage to the king she necessarily becomes Queen. She herself enjoys all the rights and privileges, which, by both positive law and by custom to that position she is entitled to, and her husband would be the king on the throne.

In deep silence Mr. Baldwin again rose up to move the motion :

Following are his words which he moved the motion :-

"That His Majesty's grace be considered."

Baldwin's speech in support of the motion

"No more grace, ever known by Parliament, and no more difficult, I am sure, no more repugnant, than the grace imposed upon a Prime Minister. I would ask the House, when I know that you will be sympathetic for me in my position to-day, to remember that in the last week I have had the grace in which to propose a speech for

delivery, to-day, so I must tell what I have to tell truthfully, sincerely, and plainly, with no attempt to dress up or to adorn. I shall have little or nothing to say to the way of commendation or criticism, or of praise or of blame. I think my best service to-day, and the one that the House would desire, is to tell them so far as I can what has passed between His Majesty and myself, and what led up to the present situation.

"I should like to say at the moment that His Majesty, as Prince of Wales, has honoured me for many years with a friendship which I value, and I know that he would agree with me in saying to you that it was not only a friendship, between man and man, but a friendship of affection. I would like to tell the House that when we said 'Good-bye' on Tuesday night at Fort Belvedere we both knew, and felt, and said to each other that our friendship, so far from being impaired by the discussions of this last week, bound us more closely together than ever, and would last for life.

Premier explains

"Now, the House will want to know how it was that I had my last interview with His Majesty. I may say that His Majesty has been most generous in allowing me to tell the House the pertinent parts of the discussions which took place between us. As the House is aware, I had been ordered in August and September a complete rest which, owing to the condition of my staff and the consideration of my colleagues I was able to enjoy to the full, and when October came, although I had been ordered to take a rest in that month, I felt that I could not, in fairness to my work, take a further holiday, and I went, as it were, on half-time before the middle of

and, for the first time since the beginning of August, was in a position to look in to things.

"There were two things that disquieted me at that moment. There was coming to my desk a vast volume of correspondence mainly at that time from foreign subjects and American colonies of British origin in the United States of America, from some of the Dominions, and from this country, all expressing perturbation and uneasiness at what was then happening in the American Press. I was aware also that there was, in the near future, a divorce was coming in the result of which would be possible a divorce in the future might come later, and I felt that it was essential that I should see His Majesty and warn him of the situation that might arise if occasion was given for a continuation of this kind of gossip and of criticism, and the danger that might come if that gossip and that criticism spread from the other side of the Atlantic to this country. I felt that in the circumstances there was only one man who could speak to him and talk the matter over with him, and that man was the Prime Minister. I felt doubly bound to do it by my duty, as I received him to the country, and my duty to him as only as a counsellor, but as a friend. I consulted, I am assured to my—and they have forgiven me some of my colleagues.

Premier's Private Interview with the King:

"I happened to be staying in the neighbourhood of Port Belvedere about the middle of October, and I understood that His Majesty was leaving his house on Sunday, October 18, to entertain a small shooting party at Sandringham, and that he was leaving on the Sunday afternoon. I telephoned from my friend's house on the Sunday morning, and

found that he had been earlier than was expected. In the afternoon I communicated with him through the secretary, and stated that I desired to see him—this is the first and only occasion on which I was the one who called for an interview—that I desired to see him, that the matter was urgent. I told him what it was. I expressed my willingness to come to Sandringham on Tuesday, the 20th, but I said that I thought it wiser, if His Majesty thought fit, to see me at Fort Belvedere, for I was anxious that no one at that time should know of my visit, and that any person who was with me should be in complete privacy. The reply came from His Majesty that he would motor back on the Monday, 19th October, to Fort Belvedere, and he would see me on Tuesday morning. And on Tuesday morning I saw him.

Far-reaching

"Sir, I may say before I proceed to the details of the conversation, that an adviser to the Crown can be of no possible service to the Crown unless he tells me at all times the truth as he sees it, whether that truth be welcome or not. And let me say here, as I have said several times before I finish, that during these talks, when I look back, there is nothing I have not told His Majesty of which I felt he ought to be aware—nothing. His Majesty's attitude through has been—let me put it in this way : Never has he shown any sign of offence, never being hurt at anything I have said to him. The result of our discussions have been carried out, as I have said, with an increase, if possible, of that mutual respect and regard in which we were. I told His Majesty that I had two great anxieties—one the effect of a movement of the kind of criticism that at that time was proceeding in the American Press,

the ~~fact~~ it ~~would~~ have ~~the~~ the Dominions, and particularly in Canada, where it was widespread, the effect ~~it~~ would have ~~on~~ this country.

"British Monarchy—an unique institution"

"That ~~was~~ ~~the~~ ~~anxiety~~ anxiety. And then I reminded him ~~of~~ what I had ~~said~~ ~~to~~ him and ~~his~~ brothers in ~~the~~ past. The British Monarchy ~~is~~ a unique institution. The Crown in ~~the~~ country through ~~the~~ centuries has been deprived of ~~many~~ of its prerogatives, but to-day, while ~~that~~ is true, ~~it~~ ~~stands~~ for far ~~more~~ ~~than~~ it ever has done in ~~the~~ history. ~~The~~ importance ~~of~~ ~~the~~ integrity is, beyond all question, far greater than it has ever been, being ~~as~~ it is not only the last link of Empire ~~that~~ is left, but the guarantee in this country, so long as it ~~remains~~ in ~~the~~ integrity, against ~~many~~ evils that have effected ~~the~~ ~~other~~ ~~countries~~ countries. There is ~~no~~ ~~man~~ in ~~the~~ country, to whatever party he may belong, who would not ~~subscribe~~ to that. ~~But~~ while this feeling largely depends on the respect ~~that~~ has ~~grown~~ ~~up~~ in the ~~last~~ three generations for the Monarchy, ~~it~~ might ~~take~~ ~~as~~ long, in ~~the~~ of ~~the~~ kind ~~of~~ ~~circumstances~~ ~~in~~ which it was being exposed, ~~to~~ lose that ~~more~~ far more rapidly than it was ~~lost~~ ~~it~~ and once lost, I doubt if anything ~~could~~ ~~be~~ ~~done~~ ~~to~~ ~~save~~ ~~it~~.

"That was the ~~basis~~ of ~~my~~ talk on that aspect, and I expressed my anxiety and desire, that such ~~an~~ ~~institution~~ should ~~not~~ ~~be~~ ~~allowed~~ ~~to~~ ~~go~~ ~~on~~ ~~as~~ I said that, in ~~my~~ view, no popularity in ~~the~~ long ~~run~~ would be weighed against the effect of such ~~an~~ ~~institution~~. I ~~was~~ His Majesty that I for one had looked forward ~~to~~ his reign being a great reign ~~in~~ a new age. He has so ~~many~~ of the qualities ~~necessary~~ and that I hoped we should be able to see our hopes realized. I was his Prime Minister—

but I wanted to talk it over with him as a friend to see if I could help him in this matter. Perhaps I am saying I should not say here ; I have not asked him whether I might say this, I will say it because I do not think he would mind it and I think it illustrates the basis on which our talks proceeded. He used to come to me, and many times during those many, many hours we have sat together, and especially towards the end, 'You and I must settle this matter together ; I will not have anyone interfering.'

The Divorce Proceeding:

"I then pointed out the danger of the divorce proceedings, that if a verdict was given in that case that left the matter in suspense for some time, that period of suspense might be dangerous, because then everyone would be talking, and when once the Press began, as it must begin some time in this country, a most difficult situation would arise for me for him, and there might well be a danger which both He and I had seen through this—I shall come to that later—and one of the reasons why he wanted to take action quickly—that is, there might be sides taken, and factions might grow up in the country in a matter where a faction ought ever to exist.

"It was this aspect of the question that we talked for an hour, and I was very glad that the ice had been broken, because I knew that it had to be broken. For some time we had no further meetings. I begged His Majesty to consider all that I had said. I asked that I pressed him for no kind of answer but would he consider everything I had said ? The next time I saw him was on Monday, November 16. That was at Buckingham Palace. On that day I

decree had been pronounced in the divorce case. His Majesty had been on that occasion. I had meant to see him in the week, but he had been for some time. I felt it my duty to begin the conversation, and I spoke to him for a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes on the question of marriage.

Voice of the People :

"Again, we must remember that the Cabinet had not been in this all. I had reported to about four of my senior colleagues the conversation at Fort Belvedere. I saw the King on Monday, November 16, and I began by giving him my view of a possible marriage. I told him that I did not think that a particular marriage was one that would receive the approbation of the country. That marriage would have involved the lady becoming Queen. I did tell His Majesty that I might be a remnant of the old Victorians, but that my worst enemy would not say of me that I did not know what the reaction of the English people would be to any particular course of action. I told him that as far as they went, I was certain that, that would be impracticable. I can go further into the details, but that was the substance. I pointed out to him that the position of the King's wife was different from the position of the wife of any other citizen in the country; it was part of the price which the King has to pay. When she becomes Queen; the Queen becomes the Queen of the country; and, therefore, in the choice of a Queen the voice of the people must be heard. It is the truth expressed in those words which are in your minds :

There will be no more ;

For the King is subject to the birth.

He ~~may~~ not, as unvalued ~~persons~~ do,
~~thrust~~ ~~his~~ himself : for ~~an~~ his choice depends
 The safety and the health of the whole State."

"Then ~~His~~ Majesty ~~said~~ ~~to~~ ~~me~~ I have ~~the~~ permission ~~to~~
~~make~~ this ~~that~~ he wanted to tell me something ~~that~~ he had long
~~wished~~ ~~to~~ tell me. He said, 'I am going to marry ~~the~~
 Simpson, and I ~~am~~ prepared to go.' I said, 'Sir, that is most
 grievous news, and ~~it~~ impossible for ~~me~~ to make ~~any~~ com-
 ment on ~~it~~ to-day.' He told the Queen ~~that~~ night ; he told the
 Duke of York and the Duke of Gloucester ~~the~~ next day, and
 the Duke of ~~Bedford~~ who was ~~now~~ of London, either ~~on~~ the
 Wednesday or the Thursday ; and for the ~~the~~ rest of week,
 so far as I know, ~~he~~ was considering that point.

"He ~~came~~ for ~~me~~ again on Wednesday, November 25. In ~~the~~
 meantime a suggestion had ~~been~~ made ~~to~~ ~~me~~ ~~that~~ a possible
 compromise might ~~be~~ arranged to avoid those two possibilities
~~that~~ had been ~~first~~ first in the distance, and then approaching
~~me~~. The compromise was that the King should ~~order~~
 that Parliament should ~~pass~~ an Act enabling the lady ~~to~~ the
 King's ~~side~~ without the position of Queen : and when I ~~saw~~
 His Majesty ~~on~~ November 25, he ~~asked~~ ~~me~~ whether that
 proposition ~~had~~ been put ~~to~~ ~~me~~ and I ~~said~~ 'yes.' He asked
 me what I thought of it. I told him ~~that~~ I had ~~not~~ ~~considered~~
 it. I said, 'I ~~can~~ give ~~you~~ ~~an~~ considered opinion.' He
 asked me my first ~~impression~~ informally, ~~and~~ ~~then~~ ~~formally~~ ~~when~~
~~the~~ Parliament would ~~be~~ ~~asked~~ ~~to~~ ~~pass~~ ~~it~~. He ~~said~~ ~~that~~,
 if he desired it I would examine it formally. He ~~said~~ ~~that~~
 so desire. Then I said, 'It will mean my putting that formally
~~before~~ ~~the~~ ~~Cabinet~~, ~~and~~ ~~communicating~~ with ~~the~~ Prime
 Ministers of all Dominions, and was that his wish ?' He ~~said~~
 me that it was. I said that I would do it.

"On December 2, the King asked me to go and see him. Again I had ~~been~~ asking for ~~an audience~~ ~~last~~ week, because such inquiries ~~as~~ I thought proper ~~to~~ make I had ~~not~~ completed. The inquiries ~~had~~ gone far enough to show that neither ~~the~~ Dominions nor ~~him~~ would ~~have~~ ~~in~~ any prospect of such legislation being accepted. His Majesty asked me if I could answer ~~the~~ question. I gave ~~him~~ ~~the~~ reply that I was ~~afraid~~ ~~it~~ was impracticable for those reasons. I do want ~~the~~ House to realize this: His Majesty ~~said~~ he was ~~not~~ surprised at ~~that~~ answer. He took my answer with no question, and ~~he~~ never recurred ~~to~~ it again. I want the House to realize—because if you ~~are~~ put yourself ~~in~~ His Majesty's place, and you know what His Majesty's feelings are, and you know how glad you would have ~~been~~ ~~that~~ this been possible—that he behaved ~~there~~ ~~as~~ a great gentleman; he ~~will~~ ~~be~~ ~~more~~ ~~than~~ ~~make~~ it. The matter was closed. I never heard another word about ~~it~~ from him. That decision was, of course, a formal decision, and ~~that~~ was ~~the~~ only formal decision of ~~any~~ kind ~~taken~~ by the ~~Council~~ until I came to ~~the~~ history of yesterday. When we had finished ~~that~~ conversation, I pointed out ~~that~~ the ~~same~~ alternatives ~~had~~ been narrowed, and ~~that~~ it really had brought him into the position that he would be placed in a grievous ~~position~~ between two conflicting loyalties in ~~his~~ ~~own~~ heart—either complete abandonment of the project on ~~which~~ ~~his~~ ~~heart~~ ~~was~~ ~~set~~, and remaining ~~as~~ King ~~or~~ doing ~~as~~ ~~he~~ ~~thought~~ ~~best~~ ~~that~~ he was prepared to ~~do~~ in ~~the~~ talk which I have reported, going, and ~~back~~ on contracting ~~that~~ marriage, if ~~it~~ were possible. During ~~the~~ ~~last~~ days, from ~~the~~ day until ~~now~~ ~~that~~ ~~had~~ ~~been~~ the struggle in which His Majesty has ~~been~~ engaged. We had ~~never~~ ~~before~~, and always on the ~~subject~~ ~~of~~ ~~this~~ ~~British~~ ~~Parliament~~

"The House must remember—it is [redacted] to realize—that His Majesty is [redacted] a boy, [redacted] he looks so [redacted] [redacted] have [redacted] thought of him as our prince, but he is a [redacted] man, [redacted] [redacted] and great experience of [redacted] and [redacted] world, and he always [redacted] before [redacted] three, [redacted] four things, which in these conversations [redacted] all hours, [redacted] repeated again and again—that if he went, he would [redacted] with dignity. He would not [redacted] [redacted] he arises in [redacted] he could not do that. He wanted to [redacted] with as little disturbance of his Ministers and his people as possible. He wished to go in circumstances [redacted] would [redacted] the succession of his brother [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] for his brother as possible; and I may say that any idea [redacted] him of what might be [redacted] a King's party, was abhorrent. [redacted] stayed down at Fort Belvedere because he said that he was [redacted] coming to London while these things [redacted] in dispute, because of the cheering crowds. I honour and respect him for [redacted] [redacted] in which he behaved at that time.

"I have something here which, I think, will touch the House. It is a pencilled note, sent to me by His Majesty this morning, and I have [redacted] authority for reading it. [redacted] [redacted] just [redacted] [redacted] pencil :

"Duke of York. He and the King have always been on [redacted] [redacted] of terms as brothers, and [redacted] King [redacted] confident [redacted] the Duke deserves and will receive [redacted] support [redacted] the whole Empire."

"I would [redacted] a word or two on [redacted] King's position. The King [redacted] speak for himself. The King has [redacted] us that [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] and does not see [redacted] [redacted] to carry, [redacted] all most [redacted] burdens of [redacted] without a [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] and we know that. This crisis, [redacted] I [redacted] [redacted] word

has arisen rather later from that very frankness of His Majesty's character which is one of his many attractions. It would have been perfectly possible for His Majesty not to have told me of this at the date when he did, and even to have told me for some months afterwards, when he realized the damage that might be done in the interval by gossip, rumours, and the like, and then made his declaration to me when he did, on the ground to avoid what he felt might be dangerous, not only here, but throughout the Empire, to the moral force of Crown which was all determined to sustain.

"He was his intentions and he has never wavered from them. I want the House to understand that. He felt it his duty to take into his anxious consideration all the representations which his advisers might give him and not until he had fully considered them did he make public his decision. There has been no kind of conflict in this matter. My efforts during these last days have been directed, I have the efforts of those most closely round him, in trying to help him to make the choice which he has not made: and we have failed. The King has made his decision to take this moment to issue this Gracious Message because of his confident hope that by that he will preserve the unity of this country, and of the whole Empire and avoid those factional differences which might so easily have arisen.

"It is impossible, unfortunately, to avoid talking a good deal of day about one's self. These last days have been days of great strain, but it was a great comfort to me and I hope it will be to the House, when I was assured before I saw him on Tuesday night, by the intimate circle that was with him at the time that evening, that I had done nothing undone which I could have done to influence the decision which he

had arrived, and which he has communicated to me. While there is not a soul among us who will not regret this from the bottom of his heart, there is not a soul here to-day that would be judge. We are not judges. He has announced his decision. He has told us what he wants us to do, and I think we must follow his ranks, and do it.

"At a later stage this evening I shall ask leave to bring in the summary Bill so that it may be read the first time, printed and made available to members. It will be available in the Vote Office as soon as the House has ordered the Bill to be printed. The House will meet to-morrow at the usual time, 11 o'clock, when we shall take the second reading and the remaining stages of the Bill. It is very important that it should be passed into law to-morrow, and I shall put on the Order Paper to-morrow a motion to take Private Members' time and to suspend the Four o'Clock Rule.

"I have only two other things to say. The House will forgive me for saying now something which I should have said a few minutes ago. I have told them of the circumstances under which I am speaking, and they have been very generous and sympathetic. Yesterday morning when the Cabinet received the King's letter and gave their answer officially, they passed a Minute, and in accordance with it I sent a message to His Majesty, which he has been good enough to permit me to read to the House. I will now reply.

"Mr. Baldwin, with his humble duty to the King.

"This morning Mr. Baldwin reported to the House his interview with Your Majesty yesterday, and informed his colleagues that Your Majesty had communicated to him informally Your firm and definite intention to renounce the Throne.

"The [redacted] received this [redacted] of Your Majesty's [redacted] [redacted] profound regret, and wished Mr. [redacted] [redacted] Your Majesty immediately the unanimous feeling of Your Majesty's servants.

"Ministers [redacted] reluctant to believe that Your Majesty's resolve [redacted] irrevocable, and [redacted] venture to hope [redacted] before Your Majesty pronounces [redacted] formal decision Your Majesty may [redacted] pleased [redacted] reconsider an intention which [redacted] [redacted] deeply distress and so vitally affect all Your Majesty's subjects.

"Mr. Baldwin [redacted] [redacted] once communicating with the Dominion Prime Ministers for the purpose of letting them know that Your Majesty has [redacted] made to him the informal intimation of Your Majesty's intention.'

"His Majesty's reply [redacted] received last night.

"The King has received the Prime Minister's letter of the 8th December, 1936, informing him of the views of the Cabinet.

"His Majesty has given the matter his further consideration, but regrets that he [redacted] unable to alter his decision.

My [redacted] words [redacted] that subject [redacted] that I am convinced that where I have [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] could have succeeded. His mind was [redacted] up, and those who know His Majesty [redacted] will know what that [redacted].

"This House to-day [redacted] a [redacted] which [redacted] being watched by the whole world. Let us conduct ourselves [redacted] [redacted] dignity which His Majesty is showing [redacted] this hour [redacted] his trial. [redacted] our [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] us [redacted] [redacted] wish, [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] asks [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] speed. Let no [redacted] be spoken to-day that [redacted] [redacted] of [redacted] word may

regret the days in which the words were spoken that causes pain to my soul, and let us not forget to-day the revered and illustrious figure of Queen Mary, who at that time was with her, and think of her when we have to speak, if speak we must, during this debate. We have, after all, as the guardians of democracy in this country, it is our duty that we should work to maintain the integrity of that democracy, and of the monarchy which, as I said at the beginning of my speech, is the sole link of our whole Empire, and the guardian of our freedom. Let us look forward and remember our country and the peace reposed by our country in this, the House of Commons, and let us rally behind the King—(HON. MEMBER: 'Hear hear')—stand behind him, and help him; and let us hope that, whatever the country may have suffered by what we are passing through, it may now be repaired, and that we may take what steps we may in trying to make this country a better country for all the people in it."

Mr. Balfour in an age of Democracy and more enlightened civilisation has almost finished his task of unmaking a King and making a King with own hand.

The submissive House listened to him with a man when he returned to the seat after finishing his part in the matter. He appeared greater. This was the speech of the man who dominated the proceeding of the Parliament in effecting the Abdication by pressing it to a Bill. He proved himself as a man who had handled a difficult question with skill and skill surpassing expectation.

Then Mr. Balfour rose and said

"Mr. Speaker. I have of the great and important message which has been received from His Majesty, I would

ask you whether it would not be desirable to suspend sitting until six o'clock, in order that members may give due consideration?"

To which the Speaker replied:

"If it is the wish of the House, I am prepared to suspend sitting until six o'clock, and to resume the debate at that hour."

The House was accordingly adjourned at 4 P. M. and members gathered into the lobby, some agrieved and some to sigh over the abdication of King Edward VIII, some advancing to pour out warm admiration upon Mr. Stanley Baldwin for his notable speech and one-way triumph.

During the adjournment the members flocked into the lobbies to indulge themselves in sensation. They overflowed into the main corridor where a vast crowd of people were vainly trying to interview their representatives. Members of the Parliamentary Labor party met in room No. 14 to reconsider their attitude, and to determine decision by revision of their opinion, i. e. in light of the new facts which the speech of Mr. Stanley Baldwin had just revealed. The Attorney-General outlined the speech before his fellow members, which was generally accepted.

When the House reassembled at six o'clock, the Speaker called upon Mr. Attlee, who said:

"This occasion does not, in my view, call for long and eloquent speeches. My words will be few and simple. We have all heard with profound interest the message from His Majesty the King. The Prime Minister has outlined to us the course of events that have led up to this momentous act. The King has announced that he is no longer to remain on the Throne. The whole

country will receive the news with deep sorrow, and his subjects in these islands and throughout the British Dominions beyond the Seas will feel a sense of personal loss. I am certain that, throughout these anxious days, he has had the sympathy of all, in the tragic dilemma with which he has been faced. That sympathy is due not only to the nature of the issue, involving as it does the strongest human emotions, but to the personal affection which he has inspired in his people. No British Monarch has been so well known by his subjects. The people not only of his country but throughout Commonwealth and the Empire, have seen in him, not a remote Ruler, but a man who personally acquainted with many of them and who visited the places where they live.

For many years, as the Prince of Wales, he served his country. He shared its joys and sorrows in the dark days of the War and in times of peace. He was called upon to take the greater responsibilities of Sovereign from a quarter of the peoples of the world. We all know the personal charm, his courage, and his ready sympathy with suffering. We, on these benches, can never forget how he stood for the miners in their hour of trial, how he showed his deep interest in the unemployed and the people of the slums. Now he has had to make a difficult choice. Powerful personal and human considerations have conflicted with obligations and responsibilities of a high calling. I am sure that all of us have been trying to think of some way by which this conflict could be resolved. We studied the various objections to every course and we hoped it would all come to a satisfactory end. But the King has made his decision. He has resolved to abide by it, and we can do no other than accept it.

"The wish of all the people is that he may have a long and happy life. We all appreciate the strain which these events have placed on the Prime Minister, and he is entitled to our sympathy. The country has received a severe shock. It will take time to recover. The position of the Government in these days of pressing problems at home and abroad, is such that upon him accept the Throne in these unprecedented circumstances, is obviously one of very great strain. It will be the endeavour of all of us to do what we may to lighten that burden. I would like to express on behalf of myself and my colleagues our deepest sympathy with Queen Mary and the other Members of the Royal Family."

Mr. Attlee was followed by the the leader of the Opposition Liberals, Sir Archibald Sinclair :

The whole country and the Empire have been passing through days of stress and tension, and the climax to which events have now marched has aroused in all of us the deepest feelings of grief and frustration. We are bound to our King not only by formal and solemn ties, by our oaths of allegiance and by our recognition of the Crown as the link which unites all the peoples of the Empire but also by those closer and more personal link which the Leader of the Opposition has so simply and so eloquently described, and which the King has forged between himself and his people—people of all classes, of all creeds and of all races in every part of his Dominions—during nearly a quarter of a century of Royal service. The rupture of those ties is profoundly painful to us all. It is also so painful to those right hon. gentlemen who, during these brief months of the King's Reign have been his Ministers and confidential advisers ; above all, to the Prime

the closest and most intimate adviser, who deserves our sympathy and to-day also our gratitude for the great and moving statement which it was his melancholy duty to make to me this afternoon.

"Let us also gratefully and respectfully acclaim the political wisdom which His Majesty has shown in discountenancing any attempt to divide the country on the issue to which his proposed marriage gave rise. It is in large measure due to his Majesty's wise and strong restraint, and to the recognition of the supremacy of Parliament and the constitutional responsibility of Ministers, that the Crown has not become involved in our political controversies, but remains above and apart from them.

Morganatic Marriage Bill

"The Leader of the Opposition spoke of the anxiety and the anxiety with which all of us have been exploring the possibility of finding some means by which the problem could be resolved. The Prime Minister referred to the possibility of a Morganatic Marriage Bill; I think it only right to tell the House that I could not have supported it. It is not only the law of our country but it is also, I believe, a sound health and essential element in the monarchical principle itself that the lady whom the King marries shall become Queen and share with him before the whole people, the glorious burden of sovereignty. Such a Bill would, however, under the Statute of Westminster, have had to pass through all the Parliaments of the United Kingdom and the Dominions, and it could have become valid in the country or in any of the Dominions, and the attempt to do so would have involved the Throne in prolonged controversy which would have gravely impaired

its prestige and dignity. In my judgment the Government had no option but to reject the proposal.

"No man deserves more the general sympathy and respect of the British people at this time than the devoted, devoted and loyal subject of the present King whose duty it will be to maintain him on the Throne. He has enjoyed some of the best of all the opportunities which long tenure of the dignity of Prince of Wales usually affords the heir to the Throne of becoming well-known to the people of this country, but he has worked hard for many good causes. Thousands of young people who have shared with him the unconventional delights of life can testify to his good comradeship and democratic instincts. None will doubt, his sincerity and high sense of public duty and all will welcome to the Throne that gracious lady, his wife, who was born a princess, but has won the hearts of the British people by showing a clear and just conception of Royal duty and opportunity in a democratic country.

The dignity of the Throne

"Grief-stricken as we are to-day, it is my duty to face the future with clear vision and firm resolve. Any prolongation of the crisis would be fraught with peril. For my own part, I doubt whether under any system of Government a crisis of this gravity could be solved with as little disturbance to the body politic as under our system of constitutional monarchy. This, at any rate, is certain that the prompt action with the King himself has enjoined upon us will save the dignity of the Throne, the reputation of our Parliamentary institutions and the happiness, prosperity and peace of the British people."

ROMANCE OF

After Mr. Archibald Sinclair had resumed seat, the debate passed on to those who had dissented during days when the issue had lain in suspense.

And now Mr. Churchill rose as the carrier of the tradition of the House of the nineteenth century rose again in a former House and the speaker called him on. The members in the Chamber moved forward to hear him with expectation as they remembered so well that when on Monday he was in his position to put supplementary question to the Premier they would not hear him at all. Now they were eager to hear him as to whether he would carry the sword further as he is known to be the real orator of the House as he would complacently say his concurrence with what had been done and which now seemed to be irrevocable.

Mr. Churchill said—"Nothing is more certain than more obvious than that recrimination or controversy at this time would be not only useless, but harmful and wrong. What is done is done. What has been done, or left undone, belongs to history, and to history, so far as I am concerned it shall be left. I will, therefore, make two observations only. The first is this: It is clear from what we have been told this afternoon that there was at no time any constitutional question between the King and the Ministers, or between the King and Parliament. The supremacy of Parliament over the Crown; the duty of the Sovereign to act in accordance with the advice of the Ministers, neither of those was ever at any moment in question. Supporting my right hon. friend, the leader of the Liberal Party, I venture to say that no Sovereign has ever conformed more strictly or more faithfully to letter and spirit of the constitution than his present Majesty. In fact he has voluntarily made a sacrifice for the peace and

strength of his Realm which go far beyond the bounds required by the law and the constitution. This is my own observation.

"My answer is this: I have, throughout, pleaded for time; anyone can see how much would have been the evils of protracted controversy. On the other hand it was in my view, our duty to endure these evils, even at serious inconvenience if there was any hope that time would bring a solution. Whether there was any hope or not is a mystery of the present time and is impossible to resolve. Time was the important factor from every point of view. It was essential that there should be no room for aspersions, after the event, that King had been hurried in his decision, I believe that if this decision had been taken a week, it could not have been declared that it was an unhurried decision, so far as the King himself was concerned, but now I accept wholeheartedly what the Prime Minister has proved, namely, that the decision was made freely, voluntarily and spontaneously in his own mind and in his own way. As I have been looking at this matter as his well known angle differed from that of some hon. members, I thought it my duty to place this fact upon record.

"That is all I have to say upon the disputable part of the matter, but I hope the House will bear with me for a minute or two, because it was my duty as the Secretary, more than a century ago, to advise his Majesty and propose his style and titles at his investiture as Prince of Wales amid the sun-lit battlements of Caernarvon Castle, and ever since then he has honoured me with his personal kindness and I may even say, friendship. I should have been silent if in my independent and unofficial capacity I had had anything to say about for many years, even the

most forlorn, to keep him on the Throne of his fathers, to which he only recently succeeded. His hopes and prayers are all. In him Prince Albert was discerned qualities of courage, of simplicity, of sympathy and, above all, of sincerity, qualities rare and precious which might have made his reign glorious in the history of our Monarchy. It is the irony of tragedy that these very virtues should, in the private sphere, have led only to his melancholy and his conclusion. But although his hopes to-day are withered, still I will assert that his personality will be remembered in the hearts of his poorer subjects, and that they will ever wish from the bottoms of their hearts for his private peace and happiness of those who are dear to him.

I repeat my own word again, and I say it especially to those who are most poignantly afflicted by what has occurred. Danger gathers upon our path. We cannot afford—we have no right—to look back. We must look forward, we obey the exhortation of the Prime Minister to look forward. The stronger the advocate of the principle a man may be, the more zealously must he endeavour to fortify the Throne and give His Majesty's strength. His strength can only come from the love of a united nation and Empire.

But the time has yet come to the debate. After Mr. Chamberlain and two or three members from the opposition were on their feet to answer the Speaker's eye.

Mr. Maxton, called by the Speaker, was on this question :

"I rise to say a few words on this unprecedented situation in which the House of Commons finds itself to-day, and I realize that I am speaking to a House in which an overwhelming proportion of the membership is under feelings of very strong emotion. I respect these emotions, although I do not entirely share them. The monarchical institutions of this land date back to very early times, and by many are regarded as permanent and everlasting. I share with others in the House the human sympathies that go out to His Majesty as a man confronted with the difficulties with which he as a man has been confronted in these recent weeks. I share the same human sympathies with the Prime Minister, who had to shoulder a task which few, if any, of the occupants of his office have ever had to shoulder before, and in the nature of the thing has had to shoulder it alone. The decisions that he has made are, I believe, in strict accordance with its conservative principles, on which he has been chosen as the leader of this country in the House of Commons, and, therefore, I make no criticism of them whatever. But I do say that, in the very nature of the monarchical institutions on a hereditary basis, circumstances to this kind were bound to arise and they have arisen now in conditions which have created very grave difficulties for this country and for the Empire over the years.

Monarchical institutions have proved their usefulness

"It is a question whether now the House will meet the particular political problem that has been placed upon our attention to-day as a practical political problem, and among many intelligent men in the twentieth century must confront, recognising that the problems of our time can be met and solved with the present and the institution

forlorn, to keep on the Throne of his fathers, to which he only recently amidst his hopes and prayers of all. In this Prince there were discerned qualities of simplicity, of sympathy and, above all, of sincerity, qualities rare and precious which might have made him glorious in the annals of the ancient Monarchy. It is the scene of tragedy that these virtues should, in the private sphere, have led only to a melancholy and bitter conclusion. But although his hopes to-day are withered, still I am sure that his personality will not go down uncherished in the hearts of his poorer subjects, and that they will wish from the bottoms of their hearts for his private peace and happiness of those who are dear to him.

I say no word more, and I say it especially to those here and out of doors—and do not underrate their numbers who are so poignantly affected by what has occurred. Danger gathers round our path. We cannot afford—we have no right—to look back. We must look forward, we obey the Prime Minister to look forward. The advocate of monarchical principle must, if he be, the more zealously endeavour to fortify the Throne and give His Majesty's strength which can only come from the love of a united nation and Empire.

But the day has not yet come to the debate. After Mr. Churchill and two or three members from the opposition were on their feet to speak the Speaker's reply.

Mr. Maxton, called by the Speaker, said on this question :

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Monarchical institutions have outlived the conditions

"It is a question whether now the House will be prepared to look at this particular political problem which has been forced upon our attention to-day as a practical political problem, one which every intelligent man in the twentieth century must confront, recognizing that the problems of our age cannot be met and solved with the old and the institution

which have come down to us from earlier times. We are living in a new kind of world, with new kinds of problems, and the institutions that have lasted centuries, however much reverence they may inspire because of their ancient origin and the traditions that have become attached to them, are not necessarily the institutions which will cope with the problems of modern times. We, therefore, intend, however it may be against the general run of opinion in this House, to take strongly the view that the lesson of the past few days and of this day in particular, is that the monarchical institution has now outlived its usefulness. (Hon. Member No.) The happenings of the past few days have only indicated the grave perils that confront a country that has no centralising, unifying figure or hereditary personality who at any time may stand under the name of the monarch that gathers round about him. We hope to take the opportunity given us, when steps are being taken to make good the evil and injury that have already been done, to persuade this House now to face the situation with the idea in their minds that for the future Great Britain and its allied countries must become, among other advanced countries in the world, one of the republican nations."

The Hon. Josiah Wedgwood made amends for his interference at the onset of this crisis :

It is too early now

"I put a Motion on the Paper and I do not regret it ; but after the sincere and admirable speech of the Prime Minister, that Motion is dead. I should have wished that the King had been allowed to live here married, happy, and King but he has wished otherwise. A thousand years hence, perhaps, we

shall be ~~blatant~~ enough to allow ~~such~~ a thing; it is too early now. He has been very kind to me and to a great many people throughout this Empire personally known to ~~me~~ and I think we ~~may~~ all wish ~~him~~ a happy life there, if ~~he~~ here. The right hon. Gentleman has made it perfectly ~~clear~~ ~~that~~ in spite of ~~what~~ I wished, and many others wished, ~~there~~ ~~was~~ really only ~~one~~ alternative—to continue lonely, disappointed, bitter, ruling the Empire, or ~~that~~ ~~is~~ ~~to~~ do what ~~he~~ has done, to throw up royalty and remain a man. We shall ~~all~~ commend him for ~~his~~ choice of ~~the~~ two, for nothing ~~could~~ ~~have~~ been worse than a Kingdom ~~ruled~~ by a man with a grievance partly hostile to every ~~other~~ ~~man~~ who had put him in ~~the~~ ~~position~~.

[Hon. Members: "No!"]—collecting round him false friends—[Hon. Members: "No!"]—collecting round him those who ~~will~~ use ~~the~~ ~~King's~~ feelings ~~against~~ ~~the~~ Ministry and against the Constitution. That would be an alternative ~~which~~ ~~every~~ ~~man~~ ~~must~~ ~~have~~ ~~seen~~ ~~ahead~~ ~~of~~ ~~us~~ ~~the~~ ~~most~~ ~~desirable~~ alternative. To-morrow we shall take a new Oath of Allegiance. There will be ~~no~~ non-jurors ~~then~~ time, ~~because~~ it is by the King's wish ~~that~~ ~~we~~ ~~take~~ ~~it~~. There will be ~~no~~ non-jurors below the ~~ministry~~, no non-jurors throughout the country. There will be, I would ~~say~~ millions of people with aching hearts. They will ~~say~~ ~~no~~ for England. They will take that ~~will~~ ~~because~~ ~~it~~ ~~is~~ ~~what~~ ~~it~~, and, if they sometimes raise their ~~eyes~~ ~~to~~ the King ~~above~~ the water, who ~~shall~~ ~~blame~~ ~~them~~ ?

The ~~speaker~~ thought that ~~the~~ last has ~~been~~ ~~said~~, but Mr. Speaker ~~then~~ ~~Mr~~ Gallacher's ~~name~~ ~~was~~ ~~called~~ ~~and~~ dropped his paper on the seat, and said :

"I would like just to ~~remark~~ that the concluding sentence of the ~~right~~ hon. Gentleman ~~the~~ ~~Minister~~ for Epping

(Mr. Churchill) happened to be the note that I have in my hand. Danger lies before us and it is going to be very bad if we close our eyes to that fact. It is very nice to hear right hon. Members talking about the necessity of all standing together, but it is possible that such a crisis has arisen should come upon us? The King and Mrs. Simpson do not live in a vacuum. They are continually at work.

Morganatic Marriage again :

"I would direct your attention to the fact that the Prime Minister told us that he was approached about a morganatic marriage, but he did not tell us who approached him. He told us that, when he went to the King later, the King asked him if he had been approached on this matter. It is obvious that forces were operating, advising and encouraging what was going on. It is a year since I heard about Mrs. Simpson. Perhaps it is the same with other Members. No one paid much attention to Mrs. Simpson or to what she was doing until now and now there are arms in Europe, and there was a move for a divorce nisi. This is not something decided on by the King and Mrs. Simpson on their own. I want to make it understood if I possibly can that we have here not an issue between the King and Parliament, for Parliament has never been consulted from beginning to end—interviews, and otherwise, but Parliament has consulted and the forces operating, the forces fighting one another on this issue, as they have been fighting continually on every important issue that has come on foreign policy. I am concerned for the working class, I see the dangers arising.

There is ~~not~~ an hon. Member here who, if he asks himself the question, believes that this finishes the work and that the forces which have been operating ~~these~~ will now stop. There is victory for ~~one~~ group at the moment, but they will ~~not~~ stop. The forces will go on.

Real aspect of the issue :

"I want to draw attention to the fact that Mrs. Simpson has a world set, and every Member of the Cabinet knows that the ~~world~~ set of Mrs. Simpson is closely ~~connected~~ with a certain foreign Government and the Ambassador of that foreign Government. It is common knowledge, and ~~from~~ ~~about~~ this issue is the issue that is continually arising when other Debates come on. I say it is ~~not~~ an issue between the King and Parliament. It is an issue between two groups which are fighting continually for domination, and it is a thousand pities that the Labour Movement should show any signs of falling into the trap. The only hope for the working class is that the Labour Movement should adopt an independent policy and pursue it against these groups, accept the proposal of the hon. Member for Bridgeton (Mr. Maxton) and ~~take~~ ~~with~~ it all. No one can go out before the people of the country and give ~~any~~ ~~assurance~~ ~~for~~ clinging to the Monarchy. You all know ~~it~~. You will not be able, no matter what you do, to repair the damage that has been done to the ~~Monarchical Institution~~. If you allow things to go on as they are going, you will encourage factions to grow, and ~~factions~~ ~~will~~ ~~grow~~, of a dangerous and desperate character, so far as the mass of the ~~people~~ ~~are~~ ~~concerned~~. I appeal to the Labour movement to take strong, determined action to arouse the people of the country to the urgent need of uniting all their forces for ~~peace~~ and ~~progress~~

in face of the dangers that lay in their path—the very terrible dangers that are bound to confront us in the very near future.”

Then rose George Buchanan and spoke the last words of opposition :

“I feel that I ought to express my own view and go a step farther than my hon. Friend the member for Bridgeton (Mr. Maxton). I should not be honest if I did not do so. I have listened more humbug than I have ever listened to in my life. I have heard praise of the King which was felt sincerely in any quarter of the House. I go further. Who has heard the tittle-tattle and gossip that is going about? If the King voluntarily stepped from the Throne, everyone knows that the same people in the House who pay him homage to the throne would have poured out scorn, abuse and insult. Some months ago we opposed the Civil List. To-morrow we shall take the same line. I have no doubt that you will go on praising the next King as you have praised this one. You will go on telling about his wonderful qualities. If he is a tenth as good as the King, why are you not keeping him? Why is everyone wanting to insult him? Because you know he is a weak creature. You want to get rid of him and you are taking the opportunity to-day.

“The great tragedy of it is this: If an ordinary workman had been in the same position in the House of Commons would have been refused of him. You would have refused him benefit. You would have insulted him. Look at the Minister of Finance carrying on collusive action. (HON. MEMBERS: “No, no”) Everyone knows it. The special law Courts were set up for this man. A special case was

taken when you know it was a breaking of the law. What are you talking nonsense about? The law is desecrated. The Law Courts are thrust aside. There is collusion which everyone of you know is collusive action. If a boy in Wales leaves his mother 7s. extra, he has the jeers and scorn of a miserable Minister of Labour. Talk to me about fairness, about decency, about equality! You are setting aside the law for a rich, pampered Royalty. The next will be pampered too. You will lie and praise them and try to lift them above ordinary men. Instead of having the ordinary frailties that all of us have, they will have the additional one, of being surrounded with a lot of flunkys who refuse to tell them the truth as others do. To-morrow I will willingly take the step of going and saying it is time the people ceased to trust those folk, but only trusted their own sense and their elected authority."

"I am sure that the House and the country will feel that any degree to which we can contribute towards avoiding controversy will be for the good of the Realm. I only want to say two things, not in any representative capacity but as an individual. No person in the community enjoys to a greater degree the understanding, the sympathy and the good will of His Majesty, the ex-Service men. I am sure that they will tell me merely that they have lost one who has worked for them for a quarter of a century, but a personal friend. But the group has a deeper sense of the importance of stability and strength at these times. I am sure that their loyalty to the Crown and their help to the King will be unbounded and will be given in the greatest possible measure that lies in their power."

The Text of the Abdication Bill :

Whereas his Majesty by his royal message of the tenth day of November in the present year has been pleased to declare that he is irrevocably determined to renounce the Throne for himself and his descendants for that purpose to be made by an instrument of abdication set out in the Schedule to this Act, and he has signified his desire that the same should be given immediately :

And whereas following upon the communication to his Dominions of his Majesty's said declaration and desire, the Dominion of Canada, pursuant to the provisions of Section Four of the Statute of Westminster, 1931, has requested and consented to the enactment of this Act, and the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa have assented thereto :

Be it therefore enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same, as follows :

1—(1) Immediately after the Royal Assent being signified to this Act the King shall execute by his Majesty's Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain in the month of December, 1936, an instrument of abdication in the Schedule to this Act, which shall have effect, and the King's Majesty shall cease to be King and there shall be a demise of the Crown accordingly to the member of the Royal Family, then next in succession to the Throne, shall be the King, and all the rights, privileges and dignities thereunto belonging.

His Majesty, his issue, if any, and the descendants of that issue, shall not, by his Majesty's abdication, have any

right, title or interest in or to the succession to the throne, and Section One of the Act of Settlement shall be construed accordingly.

The Royal Marriages Act, 1772, shall apply to his Majesty after his abdication nor to his issue, if any, of his Majesty or the descendants of his issue.

3—This Act may be cited as his Majesty's Declaration of Abdication Act, 1936.

House of Lords :—

While this procedure was going on the House of Commons was decorous sitting of the House of Lords was progressing. In the absence of Lord Halifax, the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Onslow was seated in the Woolsack.

At 3-45 the Lord Privy Seal, Viscount Halifax—better known to the world as Lord Irwin—rose and read the King's Message, which at that precise moment the Speaker was reading to the crowded Commons. The formal reading over, he proceeded to voice the sentiments of the Government, of which he was the representative in the House of Lords.

Viscount Halifax said :

"I suppose that the feeling which is uppermost in the minds of all the people of this country, as in all parts of His Majesty's Empire, is one of bewilderment at the suddenness of the loss we have sustained, together with a deepening sense of sorrow as we come to realize its full significance. It is not difficult to appreciate how much we have been deprived by His Majesty between conflicting loyalties. To few indeed has it been given to be immune from such a civil war : but for none surely was the burden of decision in this solitary sphere of conscience have been so sorely weighted by the

knowledge of the inevitable impact upon the life of the whole Commonwealth, of which the man who was to make decision was the Sovereign head.

"It is part of the subjects' duty, as their houses allowed, to render judgment upon the conclusion which His Majesty felt impelled to reach. We can only signify our profound sympathy with the outcome of these days and weeks of painful stress, and give, if we may, a humble expression of how much our thoughts are those of the family to which we are bound to the King, and especially to Her whom the noble Marquess spoke the feeling of the whole House on Tuesday.

"Your Lordships will recall the universal sense of public loss of personal deprivation that followed the death of the Late Majesty, and how all who owed allegiance to the British Crown sought comfort in the promise of the new reign then begun. We knew and we have valued all that His Majesty had it in his power to give by way of inspiration, encouragement and understanding, and it is with great sadness that we have learnt of the untimely withdrawal of these gifts from the service of the State. Your Lordship will not expect nor wish me to say more. We are yet too close to the unhappy moment of attack that has so suddenly overwhelmed both the early anticipation and our hopes."

Lord Snell then spoke for the Labour Opposition :

"My Lords, you will have heard the statement which has been made to the House with sorrow and deep regret. All of us had hoped that the appeals which had been made to His Majesty would have induced him to reach a different conclusion. It seems only a few short days since

Edward VIII ascended the Throne amid the warmest greetings of the people. There was not one of us who did not wish for him a long, happy, and a prosperous reign, and none of us would have withheld from him the co-operation in every effort necessary for the good of our nation and of His Majesty's personal happiness and well-being. To-day we have a different and melancholy situation to face. By his own will and against the earnest solicitations, many times repeated, of his responsible advisers, His Majesty has decided to take this momentous step. We can only with infinite regret accept his decision. He is the master of his own destiny, and he has made his choice. This is not the occasion when any criticism of his issues in this grievous matter could usefully be made. Our thoughts and feelings are so deeply concerned with the personal matter of parting with and from a Ruler whose career and promise some of us have followed with hope and satisfaction since his birth, that other matters seem inappropriate.

"I am certainly not in a position to speak concerning the facts, because I do not know them. Less, perhaps, than any of your Lordships who sit on these Benches venture upon an interpretation of the King's mind. We know him only in his public capacity, and we have had no closer contact with him than has been enjoyed by the general public. We can only explain that, at this moment, he has the opportunity to offer to the public understanding a view of this, the great crisis of his life. I hope your Lordships will agree that in a position of unusual difficulty and without the information, which has been available to the Government, my own Party has had to face this situation with a becoming dignity and restraint. When the deciding moment has been taken, and we are asked to accept the

Abdication of a king to whom we were bound by many precious experiences and memories, it only remains to us to think of him as in happier days and to convey our deep sympathy with him in the difficult issues that he had to face. Members of my own party have special reasons to sorrow at his departing. As a Prince he was sympathetic and progressively minded, and as a King he showed great interest in the well-being of the poorer sections of his people. His sympathy with the masses in the hour of their great need and his more recent and courageously given sympathy with the unemployed workers in the 'Slough' Areas make this occasion for us one of special sorrow and regret.

"There is nothing more to be said. We must accept a situation which we have not made and which we cannot influence. And yet there remains one thing that I must say—first to convey my sympathy with the Prime Minister who has had both long and arduous and most difficult duties to perform. In my opinion, with such duties as are at my disposal, he sought to be a good friend to the King and to fulfil at the same time his duty to the nation and Empire which his position as Prime Minister imposed upon him. The second thing I must say is, on behalf of my noble friends, to express our very sincere sympathy with Queen Mary and with all the members of her family. May I venture to hope that Her Majesty will be comforted at this hour by the constant and affectionate good will of the people of the British Nation and the peoples of the British Commonwealth and Empire. Our minds inevitably and anxiously turn to the problems of the immediate future. Certain consequential decisions will be required following which we are here to-day and some of them will require the careful consideration of Parliament."

Second Reading of the Bill :

Friday, 11, eleven o' clock, Mr. [redacted] in a cheering [redacted] moved the second reading of the Bill. In [redacted] [redacted] said :

"The provisions of this Bill require very few [redacted] of [redacted] planation." It is a [redacted] which, of course, [redacted] [redacted] Domi- [redacted] [redacted] Constitutions, just as it concerns us. As the House will [redacted] four Dominions—Canada, Australia, [redacted] [redacted] and [redacted] Africa—have desired to [redacted] with [redacted] Bill. As regards the Irish Free State, I received [redacted] from Mr. De Valera yesterday telling me [redacted] [redacted] proposed [redacted] call together [redacted] Parliament together to-day to [redacted] legislation dealing [redacted] the situation in [redacted] Irish Free State.

"The legal and constitutional position is somewhat [redacted] plex, [redacted] [redacted] points with regard to it which [redacted] desires [redacted] raised would [redacted] properly [redacted] dealt with at a later stage.

"The Bill gives effect to His Majesty's Abdication, [redacted] provides [redacted] His Royal Highness, the Duke of York, shall [redacted] [redacted] the Throne in the same [redacted] and with [redacted] [redacted] results as [redacted] [redacted] previous reign had [redacted] [redacted] the ordinary course. It [redacted] [redacted] have an Act of Parliament because [redacted] [redacted] the Throne is governed by [redacted] [redacted] Settlement, which [redacted] [redacted] provision for an abdication or for a succession consequent [redacted] an abdication. It is also [redacted] [redacted] expressly [redacted] amend [redacted] Act [redacted] eliminating [redacted] Majesty, and [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] from [redacted] succession. This [redacted] [redacted] (1) and (2) of [redacted] 1.

[redacted] (3) [redacted] with the Royal Marriages Act, 1772. This Act provides, [redacted] effect, that [redacted] descendants of George II,

other than the issue of princesses, married into foreign families, shall be capable of contracting a marriage with the issue of the King, with the proviso that where there shall be no issue in the issue of such a descendant above the age of 21, he may give notice to the Privy Council, and the marriage may take place after twelve months, unless within that period both House of Parliament have expressly declared their disapproval of the marriage. The Act was passed merely to provide a measure of control over the marriages of those who might themselves succeed to the Throne, or whose descendants might succeed. It would be clearly wrong that the provisions of the Act should apply to His Majesty, and his descendants who, on passing of the Act will never have any right in the succession."

Mr. Attlee's Support :—

Mr. Attlee thereupon indicated the support of his Party to which the House listened with marked approval. He said :

"We on this side desire to support this Bill in order that we may carry out the wishes of His Majesty that this chapter in our history which is closing should be closed with the least possible delay. But a new chapter is being opened, and I want to say a word or two as to why we support this Bill. We are concerned with fundamental economic changes. We are not to be diverted into abstract discussions about monarchy and republicanism. The essential is that the will of the people should prevail in a democratic country. Further, we want the mind of the nation to return as soon as possible to the urgent problems of the conditions of the people, the state of the world and the great issues of peace."

"I want to say a few words on the lessons which, I think, we should draw for the future. It is my intention to glance at the past. I believe that a great disservice has been done to constitutional monarchy by much emphasis and by vulgar adulation, particularly in the Press. The newspapers which stand for wealth and class privilege have done all they can to invest the monarchy with an unreal halo, and to create a false estimate for royalty, and this has tended to obscure the realities of the position. I think, too, the continuance of old-fashioned Court ceremonial, and the rounding of the Monarch by persons drawn from a narrow and privileged class, has hampered him in his work, and has at times frustrated good intentions. I hope that we shall see a new monarch made. I believe it is necessary if constitutional monarchy is to survive in the present age. Some pomp and ceremony may be useful on occasion, but we believe that the life of monarchy should be simplicity. We are party stand for the disappearance of class barriers and moving toward equality, and we believe that in the interests of the Throne, of the Government of the Commonwealth, and in the interests of this country, we should see the simplicity in the monarchy, which will, I believe, bring together people and monarch more closely than before."

An amendment:

Mr. Macdonald moved the following amendment, which was carried by Mr. Campbell Stephen:

"This Bill is to give a reading to a Bill which has been necessitated by circumstances which show clearly the danger to this country and to the British Commonwealth of retaining monarchy in an hereditary monarchy, as a

that republicanism is a guarantee of stability—certainly of stability with Civil liberty.

"This conception created by the genius of our people and of our symbol of Commonwealth unity, will withstand this grievous though it be, and will, I believe, be again vindicated and strengthened in the new reign. The hon. Member for Bridgeton mistakes a grievous incident in the history of our institution for the break-down of the institution itself. The hon. Member for Camlachie (Mr. Stephen) has just said that he supported the Amendment because the will of the people to prevail. The will of the people will prevail, and when this Bill goes to-night, the individual who ascends the Throne is one who has already won our confidence and who, with his wife at his side, will hold in our eyes a precious position."

The amendment was defeated and the second reading was carried by 105 votes to 85. The committee stage was then reached and the bill went through without much further discussion.

Third Reading of the Bill:

Mr. Baldwin rose to say that the Bill be to read a Third Time and said: I come once more to-day, and only for a few moments. I do not want to leave the House without making the few observations which I wished to make. This is the last Bill that will be presented for the Royal Assent during the reign. The Royal Assent given to this Bill will be the last act of his present Majesty, and I should like to place without putting on record, what I feel sure, will be the feeling of the House and of the country, though we have this duty to perform, and we

are performing with unanimity, we were never unconscious and we shall always remember with regard to affection, the whole-hearted and loyal service that His Majesty has given to this country as Prince of Wales and during the time he has been on the Throne. Like many of his generation, he was flung into the War as a very young man, and has served us well in trying to qualify himself for the duty which he knew must be his to live. For all that work I should like to put on record here to-day that we are grateful and that we shall not forget. There is no need on this Bill to say anything of the future. It deals with the fate of him who is still king and who will soon be king in a few short hours. I think that I could hardly reconcile it with my conscience or my feelings if I let this Bill go to another place without saying just these few words."

The Third reading was taken without any division, and the House was suspended at 12. 30 p.m. and the Bill went to the Lords, at 1-52 p.m. The Speaker who had resumed the Chair at 1-41, reported that the Royal Assent had been given to the Bill. At 1.55 the Prime Minister rose to state that the Executive Council would meet on the morning of December "12th, to approve the Proclamation to proclaim King George VI."

King Edward VIII and King George's Court Circular were issued.

Thus on the 12th day of Friday, December 11, the King Edward's Abdication Bill was passed.

King Edward's last and King George's first court circular :

Windsor Castle, December 11, 1936

The Royal Assent was given at 1. 30 p.m. to-day to His Majesty's Declaration of Abdication Bill."

The Right Hon. Stanley Baldwin, M. P., Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury had an audience of the King this afternoon."

Queen Mary's Message :

Later in the day Queen Mary addressed a message from Marlborough House :

"To the people of the nation and Empire. I have been so deeply moved by the sympathy which has surrounded me at this time of anxiety that I must send a message of gratitude from the depth of my heart.

"The sympathy and affection which surround me in my great sorrow has not failed me now, and are once again my strength and stay.

"I need not speak to you of the distress which fills a mother's heart when I think that my dear son has deemed it to be his duty to lay down his charge and that the reign which had begun with so much hope and promise has so suddenly ended.

"I know that you will realize what it has cost him to come to this decision ; and that remembering the years in which he asked me eagerly to serve and help the country and Empire you will ever keep a grateful remembrance of him in your hearts.

"I cannot to you his death summoned me unexpectedly and in circumstances so painful, to take his place. I ask you to give me the same measure of personal loyalty which you have to my beloved husband and which you will willingly give to his brother :

"With him I commend my daughter-in-law who will be his Queen. May she receive the same unfailing affection and support which you have given to me for all my twenty years.

I know that you have already taken her into your hearts.

"It is my earnest prayer that in spite of, nay through, this present trouble the loyalty and unity of our land and Empire may by His blessing be maintained and strengthened. May He bless and keep and guide you always.

"MARY R."

The Archbishop of Canterbury and York issued a joint statement concerning prayer for the King and the Royal Family. In this statement Queen Mary is spoken of as the "Queen Mother." It reads:

"Incumbents and all who use the Book of Common Prayer on Sunday next, the first Sunday of a new reign, will desire some guidance as to the form of prayer for the King and the Royal Family.

"Pending the customary formal order, which will be published in due season, we authorise the following changes—namely, the word 'Edward' wherever it occurs the substitution of the word 'George' and for the words 'our gracious Queen Mary, Albert Duke of York, the Duchess of York and all the Royal Family, the substitution of the words 'our gracious Queen Elizabeth, Mary the Queen Mother, the Princess Elizabeth, and all the Royal Family."

King's valedictory message:

The world was anxiously waiting for the valedictory message of the late King of the nation.

At 6 o'clock Sir John, Director-General of the B.B.C., announced:

"This is Windsor Castle. His Royal Highness Prince Edward."

Tense moments passed as a door closed. Then in a low, earnest voice he began his last message to the peoples he had served:

"At long last I am able to say a few words of my own.

"I have never wanted to withdraw anything, but until now it has not been constitutionally possible for me to speak.

"A few hours ago I discharged my last duty as King and Emperor, and now that I have been succeeded by my brother, the Duke of York, my first words must be to declare my allegiance to him.

"This I do with all my heart.

"You all know the reasons which have impelled me to renounce the Throne, but I want you to understand that in making this decision I did not forget the country or the Empire, which as Prince of Wales, and lately as King I have for so long tried to serve.

"But now I can tell you that I have found it impossible to carry the heavy burden of responsibility and discharge my duties as King as I would wish to do without the help and support of the woman I love.

"And I want you to know that this decision I have made, has been mine and mine alone. This was a thing I had to judge entirely for myself. The other person most nearly concerned has been up to the last moment persuaded to take a part in the decision.

"I have made this, the most serious decision of my life, only with a single thought—of what would in the end be best for all.

"The decision has been made less difficult to me by the sheer strength of my brother, and his long training in

the public affairs of the country and with his own qualities, will be able to fill my place forthwith without interruption or injury to the life and progress of the Empire.

"And let me have one matchless blessing, enjoyed by many of you and not bestowed on me, happy home with my wife and children."

"During these long days I have been comforted by Her Majesty, my mother, and by my family. The Ministers of the Crown, and in particular Mr. Baldwin, the Prime Minister, have always treated me with the greatest consideration. There has never been any constitutional difference between me and them, and I thank them for their support in Parliament."

"Bred in the constitutional traditions by my father, I should never have allowed any such issue to arise. Ever since I was Prince of Wales, and later when I occupied the Throne, I have been treated with the greatest kindness by all class of people, wherever I have lived or journeyed throughout the Empire. For this I am very grateful."

"I now quit altogether public affairs, and I lay down my burden. It may be some time before I return to my native land, but I shall always follow the fortunes of the British Empire with profound interest, and wherever I am in the future I can be found of service to His Majesty in a private capacity. I shall not fail."

"And now we have a new King. I thank you and you, his people, happiness and prosperity to all my heart. God bless you all. GOD SAVE THE KING!"

The last scene of the Drama

announced by Mr. B. B. C. on the 11th December 1936

the outgoing King Edward VIII would broadcast as a Private citizen shorn of any shade of Royalty.

Before his announced broad-cast from the Windsor Castle, the outgoing king dined with the King, Queen Mary, Duke of Gloucester and the Princess Royal at the Lodge Windsor Park. Now the Queen laid out the dishes which were favourite to the former King.

When his broad-cast was over he entered his car and took the road to Portsmouth where he boarded the waiting destroyer.

Archbishop of Canterbury preached sermon.

What pathos, nay, what tragedy, surrounds the central figure of these swiftly moving scenes. On the 11th day of December, 248 years ago, King James II fled from Whitehall. By a strange coincidence of the 11th day of December last week, King Edward VIII, after speaking his last words to his people at Windsor Castle, the centre of all the splendid traditions of his ancestors, and his Throne, and went out into exile. In the darkness of these shores.

"Seldom, if ever, has any British Sovereign been the Throne with greater natural gifts for Kingship. Seldom, if ever, has any Sovereign been welcomed by a loyal enthusiasm. From God he had received a high and sacred trust. Yet by his own will he has abdicated—he has surrendered the Throne. With characteristic frankness he has told his motive. It was a craving for private happiness.

"Strange and it is for a motive, however strongly it pressed upon his heart, he should have disappointed hopes so high and abandoned a trust so great. Even more strange and it is that he should have sought his

happiness in a [redacted] inconsistent with Christian principles [redacted] marriage, and within a social circle whose [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] are alien [redacted] all the best instincts and traditions of his people.

"Let those who belong to this circle know that to-day they stand rebuked by the judgment of the nation who had loved King Edward.

"I have shrunk from saying those words. But I have been compelled for the sake of sincerity and truth to say them.

"Yet for one who **known** him since his childhood, who **charm** and admired **gifts**, these words **be** the last. How can we forget the high hopes and promise of his youth, **most** genuine care for the poor, the suffering of **unemployed**, his years of eager service both **home** and across **seas**? It is the remembrance of these things **wrings** from our heart the cry: "The pity **it**, O the pity of it!" To the infinite mercy and the protecting care of God **commit** him now, wherever he **be**.

"There are many other figures who will always stand in the memories of these happy days. One is our ever-honoured and beloved Queen Mary. During all these years of anxiety, deep as her sorrow has been, her wonderful calmness, self-control, steadiness of judgment have never failed.

"The thought of her reign by the side of her beloved husband for twenty-five years of the sorrow which came to her when he passed from her sight, and of the great sorrow which within her was a year she had had to bear, in a thousand cord which bound her fast to the hearts of her people.

"The other person who has earned ■■■ gratitude and admiration is the Prime Minister. With great ■■■■ ■■ took the whole burden ■■ himself. As ■■■ to whom, throughout all ■■■■ anxieties he ■■■ given ■■■ confidence, I ■■■ personally testify that ■■ has combined, as perhaps he only could, the constitutional responsibility of ■ Minister with the understanding of a man and the faithfulness of ■ friend. History will record that he ■■■ the pilot who by God's help, steered the ■ ship ■ State through difficult currents, through dangerous ■ rocks ■■ shoals, into the harbour where ■■■ ■ safely rests.

"So much for the past, and now the future. The darkness of an anxious time is over. A new morning has dawned. A new reign has begun. George VI is King. You can readily imagine what it ■■■■ to him to be summoned ■■ suddenly, so unexpectedly in circumstances so painful to himself—for he ■■■ bound to his brother by ties of closest affection—to face the immense responsibilities of Kingship. Sympathy with him ■■■■ must be, deep and real and personal. But ■■ passes into loyalty, ■ loyalty all the more eager, strong, and resolute because it rises from this heart of sympathy.

"It ■ this whole-hearted loyalty which with ■■■ heart and voice ■■ peoples of this Realm ■■ Empire offer him to-day, ■■ will prove worthy of it :

The New ■■■■ :

"In manner ■■■■ speech he is more quiet ■■■ reserved than ■■ brother, and here may I add a parenthesis which may not ■■ unhelpful. When ■■ people listen ■■ him they will note an occasional ■■■ momentary ■■■■ in his speech. But he has brought ■ into ■■■ control, and ■■ those who hear ■■ need

no word of embarrassment, none who speaks.

"He is frank, straightforward, unaffected. The six thousand boys from public schools and from the homes of working whom for the last fifteen years he has gathered in the comradeship of a summer camp know that he has himself a boy among them. In varied fields of service, in the Navy, in the Air Force, in association with all manner of public and charitable work, he has gained a wide experience. He knows the welfare of industrial workers his special work and study. There is no branch of industry where he is not at home. In his visits with the Queen to Central Africa, to Australia and New Zealand he has studied the people and the problems of this great Empire over which he is now called to rule. He has a high sense of life and duty, and he will proceed with a quiet steadfastness of will. He inherits the name: he will follow the example of King George V, to whose memory we now offer the homage of our undying affection and respect.

"No more than the Duke of Windsor as we now learn to call our late King, was more touching than that which he spoke of his brother's 'matchless blessing—a happy home with wife and children.' King George had the same gentle strength and quiet wisdom of a wife who had already endeared herself to all by her grace, her charm, her bright and kindly heart.

"As for her dear children, I will only say that they are as delightful and fascinating as ever was her own as I remember over thirty years ago. Truly it is good

think that among all the homes of the Empire—the homes from which all that is best will spring—none is so happy and united as the home of our King and Queen.

"A King has gone. God be with him. A King has come. God bless him, keep him, guide him, and lead ever.

"We are all rallying to our new King. Will there not be a rally also to the King of Kings? We will call ourselves a Christian nation. That title is to be a reality and not a mere phrase there must be a renewal in our hearts of our deliberate allegiance to Christ—to His teachings of life, to the principles of His kingdom.

"We are now able to look forward with hope and joy to the Coronation of our King. He himself and the Kingship will then be solemnly consecrated to the service of the most high God. The August ceremony will be one of a new part of its true meaning unless it is accompanied by a new consecration of his people to the most high service. So may King and people alike, acknowledge their allegiance to God and dedicate themselves to seek first His kingdom and His righteousness."—so declared the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The King goes into exile

It was a dark night. A massive fog rolled on the Channel and was driving inland. People were wondering in a dream of the vale dictory of their late Monarch. The King's car raced through the inland country lane, passed quiet houses. Followed two more cars as escort. The car about 12. The Late King, the Duke of Windsor, the house of Admiral Fisher before proceeding to the pier. In the child morning hour of December 12, the King and the small party on the destroyer 'Fury'

Portsmouth harbour. The destroyer 'Fury' carrying self-abdicated Royal Soul indeed a unique figure of her anchor, and slipped out of Portsmouth harbour, into fog in the of the English Channel for his exile. On exile he went under dark night, nobody knew he had cast a longing lingering look at a hushed world listened to popular King nouncing title, estate, Empire for of a woman dearly loved. The Fury now sailing into bearing through the night who for a period was a great King was no longer a King. Simultaneously this of patches was closing Cabinet Ministers, Law officers, the Church dignities, the King's family the nation turned from the scene and proclaimed at three o'clock on the same day accession of his brother in his succession, Albert, Duke of York King George VI.

The Church again in thinking who is already on exile.

The crisis is thus averted: "The king exiled from throne, remained not to be unoccupied." Mr. Stanley Baldwin boldly The King dethroned. On 24th May, H. M. King George VI enthroned Baldwin Earldom and his son Viscount.

Girl Unnamed

To a pen-picture a girl who, with echoing and re-echoing with vociferousness, unmixed with indignation, called an unnamed girl, certainly somewhat venture-some. One fine morning she was unearthed of Atlantic by a mighty bachelor king high kingdom far-flung. Instantly was known though not shooting glaring from

horizon — horizon which a writer, — a philanthropist — specialist — any branch — art, science or a — in public life might well envy for. Who — she then? The most — figure — she of the day, the amazing drama, the — ing personality in recent history, the — awe-awakening breakwater — the high pool of constitutionalism, —, — amazing heroine of — most amazing drama. The — of her being — international figure — but a small tribute — — meteoric character. She — now universally known—she — on every lip and has captured — attention of — whole — world.

She — not a — of beauty and push and royalty of Cleopatra having a romantic buoyance of her own. — — poor and unknown girl, born and brought up in a small town of Baltimore — America, of the name of — Wallis —. Afterwards by her second marriage with an English-American gentleman, Ernest Aldrich Simpson — July 21, 1928, she took the — of Mrs. Ernest Simpson round which the present story is woven.

Now in the year 1936 Mrs. Simpson — out in all the romantic glamour that has ever amazed the world. Tongues buzz, heads nod, eyes sparkle, minds indulge in speculation, speculation catches on that an American should become Queen — England—the world wonders.

Thelma Wallis Warfield was born — June, 1896, — — Thelma Wallis Warfield of excellent but — family — —. When she was only three years old, her father died and her widowed mother counted her feeble resources sparingly.

Thelma Wallis Warfield had — wife Alice — a handsome couple—and there was a love match, — of this happy marriage was born — — Warfield—no other —.

Mrs. TENCKLE Wallis Warfield was a virginic beauty of some name. In her life she had been wooed by many wealthy suitors, but she refused their advances and following the dictates of her heart, married Tenckle Wallis Warfield.

Baby Wallis, in character, was a little like the Warfield and inherited her mother's mild and gracious manner. She is of slender figure, measuring about four inches in length, though her slenderness appears to show her in greater height. Her face is distinctive. Her voice is low-pitched and clear and who has ever heard cannot forget "all her features, which, though good, yet put together, make beauty. The rather that of a sparking personality and good nature—more commanding, more compelling than beauty. She is self-disciplined, courageous and legal. She is reserved and undemonstrative. She shows affection and tenderness, but not emotions. She is one of the best judges of people. Subtle in character, her greatest charm is in her complete naturalness."

Family annals

Annals of the Warfield family of Baltimore date back, when England was under the Normans. Pagan Warfield, a Norman gentleman, found the Norman family in England and was known to Norman English and his family by such adoption became English. He joined the ranks of William the Conqueror and fought valiantly at the battle of Hastings and contributed more or less to the history of Norman England. He received an English manor as "knight's fee" as reward for his valor and loyalty. The estate was called "Warfield walka." He was granted with land in Warfield, a branch of Warfield family, was Knight

of the Order of the Garter by Edward III. A second Pagan of the Warfield family granted up to the Prior of Morton a free gift which was later known as Warfields Parish. During the reign of King John, John de Warfield lived at Warfield manor in Warfield Walk, which one of the 12 Walks into which Windsor forest was divided. The annals of Windsor "contain many interesting references to the name of Warfield reporting prominence of the family and its closer association with the royal household of England.

Richard Warfield, the founder of the American branch of English Warfield family, with Howards and several others arrived at the shores of Chesapeake Bay in 1602. There the entire group lived in close association. In Maryland, the names of Opton and Elys appears in the Warfield connection.

Richard Warfield, after a few years of his arrival, acquired an estate to which he gave his own name. Richard Warfield bore the crest of the Paschal Lamb. He was a religious man and was a member of the first vestry of old St. Anne's Church. His descendants have been conspicuous in business, politics, professions of Law and Medicine and in military affairs. Dr. Charles Alexander Warfield was one of the founders and president of the medical and surgical Society of Maryland, and one of his sons, Henry, was a member of Congress in 1820. The Warfield produced many military giants. During the revolutionary war many of the Warfield family served in rank and file in the army.

Not a Commoner

The Warfield family, of which Mrs. Simpson is a daughter, has its hoary annals of pronounced association with the

English royal houses having long tradition, producing very many military talents, and celebrated in many of human life. Its aristocracy is older than many a present aristocracy of the aristocracy-ridden English society. America, the new world, has made innovations, and outstanding of them is Commonalty. The American notion of Aristocracy is that they level all. So Miss Bessie Warfield of Baltimore, America, romantically known as Miss Simpson, was a commoner—not an aristocrat. Subtlety in nature, conviction in one's own way of thinking, character, compelling personality, unostentatious habit, and complete naturalness in life certainly make a man an unoffending aristocrat of nature, but failing to make him or her fit to stand on the level of a person of personage having socialistic aristocracy. So an aristocrat of nature is a commoner with society aristocrat. Family heritage, family tradition, family celebration, make one aristocratic and make one admissible into an aristocratic family to take its place. And such aristocracies are not wanting in history, and are modern. But in the case of Miss Bessie Wallis Simpson it has been quite the reverse.

Childhood

Much of the childhood of Mrs. Simpson was spent in a house that was a Crown property granted to her ancestors by the English monarch. Her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Warfield, were born in homes that had been the property of their respective families since the days of the original grants from the Crown. The famous Warfield College in Howard County which was the birthplace of Mr. Warfield was part of the original grant to Richard Warfield, first of the

English Warfield family and a party to the first batch of the few English Birkshire families to come to America and plant English settlement there in 1662. "Manorglem," the ancestral home and birth-place of Mrs. Simpson's grand-mother was the original grant from the British Crown to the ancestors of Anna Euny who became by marriage Mrs. Henry Maetier Warfield. The Warfield family is known as one of the oldest owners in the State Government.

Miss Wallis Warfield used to hear of her grandfather's bold career. The steadfastness of purpose, courage and conviction from her grand-mother, of the status of the family of her father and would put anxious questions.

Mrs. Simpson's father left, when he died, his widow and infant daughter and feeble means to lean on. Mrs. Simpson's uncle who was single and rich, took care of rearing his niece. He was very affectionate to little Wallis. Baby Wallis lovingly enjoyed the company of her uncle with the attention he bestowed on her. Her grand-mother, though liked much by her, became pleasanter to her when her uncle was about.

Her childhood was happy, a devoted mother to take the strict aristocratic grand-mother to tell the tale of her ancestors, to administer admonition to dear uncle to provide her with exciting surprises, and friends in a band of gentle small boys and girls in the neighbourhood to play with.

Thus the childhood of Mrs. Wallis Warfield passed by and as the approach of her school days, she went to the Oldfields boarding school at Glencoe. There she learned History, Geography, Grammar and also the discipline, gentleness, courtesy, religion, devotion—which was a part of the education imparted to the girls.

Then Wallis Warfield spent the summer at the Charlotte Nolanda camp for girls near Middleburg. This was a school. It was designed for recreation, very wholesome, and out-of-door riding, swimming, picnics, parties and the "flying Yankees" were the things that were taught and attended to by the young girls. Then she came back to Pensacola and stayed a few days, where she said goodbye.

The Romance

In 1914 Wallis Warfield chaperoned by her mother's sister arrived at Cotikion. Her attending colitteesons brought her to the society where her school-days were over. She was a mark for her style and distinction which drew her plenty of admirers. In the winter of 1914 she paid a visit to her cousin Mr. Henry Mustin at Pensacola. She met Lt. E. Winfield Spencer—her romance began and she married the Lt. Spencer jr.

Wallis Warfield's visit to Pensacola was very pleasant to her. It gave her an introduction to a new life. There she was under the war-stricken atmosphere where men to risk their lives in aviation and flying. She saw the sky-rocking of their life—there were good times.

Here at Pensacola Wallis Warfield received the first quickening of love and was caught up in romance. And her friends guessed well the change that came upon Wallis, of all the young officers, Wallis had met and fallen in love with. She accepted invitation, and often she accepted the love of Lt. E. Winfield Spencer.

The day of farewell came at last. Wallis Warfield returned home with the romance in mind. And exchange of letters followed swiftly. The Lt. Spencer was occupied with the thought of nineteen-year-old Wallis Warfield.

Then in summer following the two lovers, Miss Wallis Warfield and Lt. E. Spencer again at Baltimore and subsequently the engagement was announced. As announced they entered into marriage on Nov. 11 and it was celebrated at Christ Protestant Episcopal church. The marriage in all solemnities and rites united the couple and made them lawfully and ritually. They were in Florida after their honeymoon trips. These were days of excitement, the war in Europe, the sinking of the U. S. Louisiana in the Pacific, the loss of America joining the war, the war-preparation in men and munition, the American cry of the largest and the best ships, dread naughts the, lack of trained aviators, the American's aversion to get mixed up with the European politics, the banker's subtle hand in war and in peace, the news of death, departure and transfers of officers, mobilisation of troops, farewells, dances! Much was the period when the two restless youths embarked on week journey of life in search of transcendent joy and expression.

The Lt. Spencer was getting impatient in the midst of parties, dances and dinners and to join the Air force in France. They stationed in the most beautiful pleasure-resort in California, they enjoyed the splendid climate, the scenic view of San Diego and decidedly began to like it. There was the element of the romantic strain in the Love and War. One followed the other. The war and the excitements, enchantments are unknown to the American—its love story was as romantic as the untried and unknown.

Lt. Spencer was ordered to Washington whence to Shanghai, China. Miss Spencer was glad to see his mother at Baltimore—she was occupying herself with her old acquaintances who, were

he of the Washington society. While Lt. Spencer was in Shanghai, Wallis took her first trip to Paris. On her return she made up her mind to proceed to Lt. Spencer in Shanghai—she had her own will.

In the New World—Shanghai

During the period Mrs. Wallis Spencer's trip to Paris in her society and city she had numerous letters of introduction and now in Shanghai, the splendid city in the Orient, noted for its settlement and centre of commerce, she found a unique opportunity of society and culture. The frequent absence of Lt. Spencer from the city drew her to his acquaintance circle of officials in Peiping, the headquarter of the Ambassadors and Diplomats. The frequent trips to Peiping were pleasant. Her friends at the Embassy of U. S. A. took special note to record the impression on her magnificent gay life in the midst of the sombre oriental temples and tombs and the palace of the Saints and Monarchs; reminiscence of her days in Shanghai and Peiping left a special stamp on Wallis Simpson and a mark in future. While Lt. Spencer was in Shanghai and Mrs. W. Spencer was in Peiping society, a new world rolled on, new people came to the scene. The new people in Warrenton were near her family the most of them were in Washington. The new people in Warrenton. In Virginia she was quiet at home and was spending her days in society, but during the war she took a trip to New York. Now her uncle under whom she had the land of her and her father's will to her niece in 1927. When she heard of her uncle, she had another change in her life. At the Warrenton she had a divorce and the charge was desertion in Dec. The divorce was granted.

Her enormous visits and trips these years not include London. Mrs. Spencer freed from wedlock-bonds whirled into London city. Mrs. Spencer with her splendid heritage of English lineage dating from the Duke of Normandy and William the Conqueror, with her high social culture and education, her supercharacter as hostess, of self-possession and assertion, her beauty and poise paved her position in English society. The character of Mrs. Spencer is very difficult indeed to express. A smart personality and one who has seen many interesting men, women and things.

Mrs. Wallis Spencer was reported to be looking for a job. What was she looking for? Was a job indeed? A mightier fame; a star of course? She would be a splendid business woman with her splendid accomplishments; her ways and manners; with her personal magnetism she could influence—man to do the bargain. But would she do it? In business she would have a splendid pedigree in her lineage, her grand-father was a successful business man Henry W. Warfield—the first man to build up Grain Elevator in America. She gave the idea of his business and decided to travel along with her friend Mrs. Buchanan Merryman and this time to Europe. From Paris, they proceeded to London and there again she encountered with the fateful probability of a new chapter. She met Mr. Francis Simpson—a gentleman divorced from his first wife living in a quiet part of London only as an Attorney for the firm of Chartering of Simpson & Simpson—though born at New York city. His father was an American subject by birth. There were inter-marriages in Simpson's family and some of them were knighted by the British Crown. Young Simpson was hardly an

under-graduate, enlisted in the British Coldstream Guards which was King Edward VIII's regiment. After his enlistment he was given the commission rank of the Second Lieutenant. Later after the war he came to America and graduated at the Harvard University. He was a fine-looking man, tall and handsome. His excellent manners and charm soon found Wallis a guest in his company.

The perfect man and splendid unconscious courtship which was Wallis and Simpson was quite a new thing she has ever known before. Wallis in a new Conventional Society fell in and became the Company of Mr. Simpson who had won her heart. In 1928, July 29, Saturday, Mr. Simpson married Wallis Spencer in the simplest way possible. In London they lived in a small house that was attractively furnished, and Wallis made it home-like with flowers and decorations. A year rolled on. Mrs. Simpson was getting home-sick, missing her American friends rather worried with the routine of a quiet home life with the daily rounds of shopping and specially the English way of doing things. She began to find out in spite of many common things between the two English-speaking nations there was a difference in life and in Society in America and England. At the same time with the news that her mother then was very sick in Washington, she hurried over to her side. The last—deepest bond of affection and loyalty was stirred with her mother's death. She was only daughter of her mother who had devoted and a single aim of the child.

This last bond brought her from America and on her return to London the sadness followed her and she received and visited her friends. Slowly the London Society drew Mr. Simpson into the high social circles through the American Embassy. They were entertaining a good deal in an inconspicuous way.

They were prominent guests of the English Society. The humble quiet house was moved to and apendiquarter in the Upper Berkeley Street and the apartment was furnished in the best manner. Mrs. Simpson, who was turned this into a magnificent home by her proved taste for colour and her matchless sense of artistic taste.

It was here, her friends and acquaintances prevailed on her to be presented to the King and Queen, an honour which hardly any woman would refuse. To her American spirit the court presentation, the ceremony, the expensive dress was an appeal. When she consented, she borrowed costumes and succeeded in adopting in a very smart and attractive way. The presentation ceremony took place on June, 10, 1931. For the first time she saw the Prince of Wales along with the royalites on the occasion behind the golden Throne of the father and the mother. Later on at the party given by Lady Furies, there Mr. & Mrs. Simpson made curtesy to H. R. H. Prince of Wales.

In London Mrs. Wallis Simpson proved the success and many high personages—Lady Oxford, Duke & Dutches—were of Mrs. Simpson's. Her wit and her splendid qualities were talked and remembered and discussed. Her fully developed qualities were prior to her Society in her splendid heritage from her English lineage and she truly held a position in the new society.

Mrs. Simpson in London :

No. 12 Cumberland was situated in the palatial home but really a portion of that magnificent house was the apartment, but it was lavishly furnished; the dining hall mirror topped adding gaiety to meals. Mrs. Simpson buys here gowns in Paris, her jewels and her dresses were the talks of the day. Her

under-graduate, ~~and~~ the British Coldstream Guards which was King Edward VIII's regiment. After ~~the~~ enlistment he was given ~~the~~ rank of ~~the~~ Second Lieutenant. ~~After~~ ~~the~~ war he went to America and graduated ~~at~~ Harvard University. He was a fine-looking man, tall and ~~handsome~~. ~~The~~ ~~social~~ manners and charm soon found Wallis a guest ~~in~~ his ~~company~~.

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This ~~new~~ bond ~~united~~ her ~~from~~ America and ~~on~~ ~~her~~ return to London ~~she~~ ~~was~~ ~~followed~~ her and ~~she~~ received ~~and~~ visited ~~the~~ ~~English~~. Slowly ~~the~~ London Society ~~and~~ Mr. ~~and~~ Mrs. Simpson into ~~the~~ ~~English~~ social circles thro'the American Embassy. They were entertaining a ~~great~~ ~~deal~~ ~~in~~ ~~an~~ inconspicuous ~~way~~.

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In London Mrs. Wallis Simpson proved the successful host and many high personages—Lady Oxford, Duke of Dutches—were of Mrs. Simpson's. Her manners, and her splendid qualities were talked and remembered and discussed. She fully developed her qualities as superior in Society in her splendid heritage from the English lineage and truly held a position in the new society.

Mrs. Simpson in London :

No. 10 Cumberland was described as the palatial home but really a portion of the magnificent house was her apartment, which was lavishly furnished; the dining room mirror topped adding gaiety to meals. She buys here as in Paris, her jewels and her dresses were the fashion of the day. Her

of a controlled manner with an amazing ability to keep her opinions of herself. She has the warm interest in arts, literature, affairs of the state, and theatres, etc. Yet she is a keen and thorough observer of men. Her never-failing mind in its calmness. In her London residence—the renowned hostesses of her guests—such as Lady Oxford, Lord and Lady Mountbatter—a relation of the present royalty.

In the midst of these social, Mrs. Simpson was being watched by an unknown destiny. Londoners were watching with the amazing eye the guests and callers in the salons and parties of Wallis Simpson. She is a conquering hero and has a rapid success in impressing the nobility and some of the royal visitors and guests. Mr. & Mrs. Simpson were very often found in company with the Prince of Wales at the St. James's Garden, Embassy club. Behind all these expensive jewels, dinners and parties the mystery of friendship with the royalty and nobility was slowly unveiling itself, and was at the club, the press and men-in-the-street as well. She could analyse the situation and the events in the social life and household of the English Royalists and the traditions of the much adored and preserved traditions surrounding the English modes in politics and social life, she would notice the mysterious maiden charge in making her way in the most mysterious

"I am the daughter of earth and water,

And the nursing of the sky

I pass through the ocean and the shores,

I change, but I cannot die."

and like poet hidden in the midst of thoughts she sings song unhidden and forbidden ties the world is wrought hopes and fears.

Events moved rapidly leaving the conservative to think and the bachelor Prince of Wales in company of his friends have been causing records in history etc. Mrs. Wallis Simpson to be turnover as of one of the most intimate circle of friends of the bachelor Prince of Wales. The intimate friends of the Prince also included the traditional friends of the royal household; who would have undoubtedly noticed the changes the associations were causing. This was known and gossiped and talked out. The world was taken aback not with the event that followed, but with the British attitude—afterwards political, social and religious. It caused a blooded revolution in the annals of British history. It did break the constitutional procedure of history, but it revealed a newer stiffened attitude of the politicians backed by the Parliament. It was indeed a wonderful achievement in the midst of immense international strains and stress. It is the task of the future historian to unearth the debris of now and forbidden human actions.

Both the Simpsons received invitations to St. James Palace and in the famous cruise on the yacht of the Roseure in 34, shaperonar by Mrs. Merryman. Mrs. Wallis accompanied the prince in Cannes. The Prince of Wales, the delight of the Americans and the amazement of the British, elite with Mrs. Wallis. The associations, and intimacy deepened; the prince and now the king found much in common and affinity. Mrs. Wallis was undoubtedly the great of the Prince of Wales and the king. She masterfully took of the bachelor king.

In her company, the King felt security and strength. His health improved and this the Queen valued very much and slow to observe. It was at Fort Belvedere Mrs. Simpson found free display of the character and the charm. The bold and unique spirit of the King was not to be found in any company as Wallis. The King's attitude and character is not as he written—a spirit cannot be caged—the rigid bars of conventionality and phrases of constitutionalism can be eternally interpreted by rigid bureaucracy of their contents. The King's words are hardly to be understood when the pillars are falling and cracking.

The next cruise on "Nabalin" included Lord and Lady Brownlow: Lady Diana Pitt Copper, Mrs. Fitzsygerald, Mrs. Simpson.

Mrs. Simpson was in Paris to attend to some shopping. She left London on a Saturday morning and arrived at Le Bourget airdrome just in time to get to her dress-maker before the latter called it a day.

Hardly had she settled in a chair when the phone rang. England was calling Mrs. Simpson. Having failed to locate her at her hotel, England thought that she would be at her dressmaker's.

The group at the English end of the wire complained of lonesomeness.

"Why don't you take the plane and fly back right away?"

Mrs. Simpson explained that it would be impossible. No dressmaker could wait a flight in ten minutes.

"What am I going to do to-night?" asked the party.

Mrs. Simpson made what she thought was a reasonable suggestion. Why not hang those pictures that they recently found in the walls of the Fort Belvedere.

The [redacted] spending a Saturday night hanging [redacted] pictures [redacted] particularly exciting, [redacted] party [redacted] criticise it. The party said [redacted] :

"But how about to-morrow morning? What am I [redacted] to-morrow morning?"

Mrs. Simpson smiled.

"May I recall to you, Sire, that you are supposed to be the Defender of the Faith?"

"Well"

"Why not go to church to-morrow morning?"

The King laughed. The joke was on him.

He [redacted] go to church the following Sunday, much to the surprise of all his friends, who have always taken [redacted] for granted [redacted] he had little use for [redacted] church or bishops.

The Bishop of Bradford, who fired the [redacted] shot in the great battle of December, 1836, will be astonished to learn [redacted] it was because of Mrs. Simpson and not in spite of her that the Defender of the Faith spent at least one Sunday morning listening to a grave and lengthy [redacted].

According to the Bill of Rights passed in 1689, a King of England who marries a Roman Catholic must surrender the Throne to the next Protestant heir. Barring this [redacted] precedent that the King cannot marry whom he loves [redacted] his wife [redacted] Queen. Two of his brothers [redacted] princess [redacted]. The Duke of York, [redacted] a Commoner [redacted]. Besides the Archbishop of Canterbury and other Churchmen [redacted] that such re-marriages can take place. All these arguments smack of puritanic century-old hide-bound [redacted].

The Duke of Windsor and Miss Wallis Warfield were married at 11.47 A. M. on June 3, 1937.

Historic Wedding

The civil ceremony was conducted by the Mayor of London who concluded with the words, "In the name of law we declare you united in bonds of matrimony." Immediately afterwards the newly married couple proceeded to the adjoining music room which was arranged as a chapel—where they knelt on white satin cushions before Reverend Anderson Jardine.

The civil ceremony was very simple. The Duke and the bridegroom sat on armchairs and Major Langford was the Duke's witness and Mr. Herbert Rogers as Miss Warfield's sat beside them. The bride wore a "Wallis Blue" silk-crepe wedding dress and a blue velvet hat trimmed with small blue and pink feathers.

The Duke replied to the Mayor's question whether he would take Miss Warfield with a "Oui."

Miss Warfield replied similarly in an unsteady voice.

The Mayor delivered a brief address.

The Mayor in course of addressing "your Royal Highness and Duchess," said: "By one of those caprices in which fate delights, you are under the blue skies and amid the flowers in the garden of France that the most moving of Idylls blossomed."

The Mayor expressed his sincere wishes for "the Prince who was a wellbeloved sovereign of a friendly nation and for whom the Royal Highness was chosen from a distant country destined to be by the same precious bonds."

The Duke wore a light morning suit with a very light yellow velvet double collar, grey cheek and a carnation button-hole.

At the conclusion of the wedding ceremonies a bouquet from the Prime Minister, M. Blum, was presented to the bride and bridegroom.

After the religious ceremony the organ played the wedding march and the Duke and Duchess proceeded to the Saloon where they were seated by the invited guests, after which they posed for several minutes for the photographers. The Duke and Duchess left the Castle before the wedding breakfast which followed.

The Duke and Duchess of Windsor left on their honeymoon at 5-30 p. m.

Simplicity and dignity were the keynotes of the civil and religious ceremonies when the Duke of Windsor married Miss. Warfield in Chateau de Canda.

In conformity with the French law the civil ceremony was performed by Doctor Mercier, Mayor of Monte, who entered the marriage in the register of Monte with entries of weddings of many farmers and village girls. Dr. Mercier read to the couple the Articles of the Civil Code which occur the word "the husband shall help and protection to the wife and the wife shall have obedience to the husband."

The church of England service followed immediately in the flower-decked music room of the Chateau. The Duke and Duchess spent the afternoon seeing the grounds and left by car in the evening to catch the train for Arnoldstein, Austria, from where they will travel to Schloss Wasserleoburg in Carinthia, which the Duke and Duchess will spend the next months.

The day passed brightly over the village decorated with British, American and French flags. Strong bands of police closely guarded every approach to the Chateau, scrutinising

The King having spent the morning with Mrs. Bell, was in a good humour, so he had them up and there were cocktails and cigars.

They not only noticed this behaviour quite sternly but noticed such signs of acute mental disturbance that they had to ask them with some concern, what was the matter.

"How can you tell me, sir?" said the Prime Minister. "The newspapers are full of it. There are photographs. We are not going to let the lady's little dog."

"What is your Majesty going to do about it?"

"Nothing out of the regular course," said the King, "I shall be crowned in May, and in April I shall marry Daisy."

"Impossible," the Prime Minister almost shrieked, "Madness."

"Out of the question," said the Archbishop, whose pulpit voice was a triumph of clerical art. "You cannot marry this woman."

"I had rather you called her Mrs. Bell," said the King. "Or Daisy, if you prefer it."

"If I were to officiate at your proposed marriage I should have to speak of her as 'this woman,'" said the Archbishop. "What is good enough for her in the house of God is good enough, for her here. But I shall refuse to officiate."

"And I shall resign," shouted the Prime Minister.

"How awful!" said the King. "Would it be so bad of me to remind you that there are others?"

"Sandy MacLassie will form a King's Party for me in no time. The people are behind me. You may have to resign in my case long before the Coronation."

"Your threat does not apply to me," said the Archbishop, "the Church will not recognise an unconstitutional marriage."

'That will get me out of a very serious difficulty,' said the King. 'Religious matters are not so simple as they were for William the conqueror, of whom I have not heard.' 'I don't think I have heard.'

'William had only a handful of adventurers to consider, all Christians and Christians of one sort. I have to consider four hundred and ninety millions—four hundred—of my subjects.'

'Only eleven per cent of them are Christians; and that tiny minority is so divided into sects that I cannot say a word about religion without hurting somebody's feelings.'

'As it is my Protestant succession to insult the Pope and his Church.'

'If I go to a church, especially one with a steeple on it, I shall offend the Quaker.'

'If I profess the Thirty Nine Articles of the Church of England I shall bind myself to the most of my loving subjects as accursed, and oblige hundreds of millions of them to regard me as an enemy of their God.'

'Now, though all the religious stuff in the Coronation Service is out of date, I cannot alter it. That is your affair.'

'But I am not legally married without offending the religious feeling of a single soul to my Empire. I shall be married civilly by the civil registrar.'

'What does your wife say to that?'

'It is absolutely most outrageous,' said the Archbishop. 'It would certainly get me out of a very awkward situation.'

'Archbishop,' said the Prime Minister, 'are you deserting me?'

'I cannot at the spur of the moment find the reply to his Majesty's very unexpected move,' said the Archbishop.

You had better take the constitutional point while I consider it.'

'It is impossible for your Majesty to defy the constitution, said the Prime Minister. 'Parliament is all powerful.'

'It has that reputation as long as it does nothing,' said the King. 'However I am as devoted to the constitution as you are.'

'Only understand that if you push me to a General Election to ascertain the wishes of my people on this question I am quite ready to meet that extremity.

'You will get a glorious licking. Your very mistaken bellyache in the Press does not impose on me.'

'But there is no question of a General election,' said the Prime Minister. 'Are you prepared to act by the advice of your Ministers or are you not? That is the simple issue between us.'

'Well, what is your advice?' said the King 'whom do you advise me to marry? I have made my choice. Now make yours. You cannot talk about marriage in the air—in the abstract. Come down to tin tacks. Name your lady.'

'But the subject has not considered that. You are only playing the game, sir,' said the Prime Minister. 'You mean that I am beating you at it,' said the King. 'I mean that I thought I should.'

'What is all, sir. But I cannot choose a wife for you, can I?' said the Prime Minister.

'Then you must advise me on the subject', said the King. 'And if you cannot advise me, I must act by my own judgment.'

'This is not me to be a quibble, said the Prime Minister. 'I should have expected it.'

know very well what I mean. Somebody of royal blood. Not American.'

'At last we have something definite', said the King. 'The Prime Minister of England publicly declares Americans as untouchables. You insult the nation on whose friendship and Kinship the existence of my Empire in the least finally depends.'

'All my political friends regard a marriage between a British King and an American lady as a political policy.'

'I should not have said that,' said the Prime Minister. 'It was a slip of the tongue.'

'Very well; we will work that out, said the King.

'You are still a bride of royal stock. You are dreaming of a seventeenth-century dynastic marriage.'

I, the King of England and Emperor of Britain, am to go through Europe for my cousin, five or six times removed, a dethroned down-and-out Bourbon, or Habsburg, Hohenzollern, or Romanoff, about whom nobody in this country or anywhere else cares a single damn.

'I shall do nothing so unpopular and so silly. If you are still living in the nineteenth century I am living in the twentieth.

'I am living in a world of republics, of mighty nations governed by engineers, planters, stonemasons, promoted sons of operators in boot factories. Am I to marry one of their daughters?

'Choose my father-in-law for yourself. There is the Shah

of Persia. There is Signor Wladimir. There is Signor Bombardone. There is Herr Boller. There is the steel King of Russia. That is the royal house of to-day.

I wonder would any of these great rulers allow a relative of his to marry an old-fashioned King? I should like to know.

I tell you there is not a royal house left in Europe to-day into which I could marry without weakening England's position and if you don't know that you don't know anything.

'You seem to me to be entirely mad,' said the Prime Minister.

'To a little London clique some two or three centuries back the times I am doubt seem,' said the King. 'The whole world knows better. However, we need not argue about that. What is my lady?'

'I cannot think of any body at the moment,' said the Prime Minister, though there must be lots available.

'Can you suggest anyone,' Archbishop?

'No! the unexpectedness of the demand leaves my mind a blank,' said the Archbishop. 'I think we had better consider the possibility of an abdication.'

'Yes,' said the Prime Minister. 'Your Majesty must abdicate. That will settle the whole question and get us out of all our difficulties.'

'My sense of public duty, to which your friendly appeal is movingly, will hardly allow me to desert my post without the slightest necessity for such an act,' said the King.

'Your throne will be shaken to its foundations,' said the Archbishop.

'That is my look-out,' said the King, as I happen to be sitting on it.'

'But what will happen to the foundations of the Church if it tries to force me to contract a loveless marriage and to live in adultery with the woman I really love?'

'You need not do that,' said the Archbishop.

'You know that I will,' said the King, 'if I listen to your counsel. Dare you persist in it?'

'I really think, P. M., that we had better go,' said the Archbishop. 'If I were superstitious I should be tempted to believe that the devil was putting all these argument into his majesty's head.'

'They are unanswerable; and yet they are so entirely of the track of English educated thought that they do not really belong to your world and mine.'

'Besides,' said the King, rising as his two visitors rose, my brother," who would succeed me, might strongly object. And he is married to a home-grown lady, who is more popular than any foreign ex-princess could be.

'And he would never be the real thing as long as I was in the office.'

'You would have to cut my head off.'

'You can't tomfool with the throne; you must either abolish it or respect it.'

'You have said enough, sir,' said the Prime Minister. 'Spare me any more.'

'Stay for lunch both of you,' said the King. 'Daisy will be there. Or must I make it a command?'

'It is past my lunch hour; and I am very hungry,' said the Archbishop. 'If it is a command I shall not demur.'

As they went downstairs to the dining-room, the King whispered to the stricken Prime Minister. 'I warn you, my dear Gldwyn, that if you take up my challenge and name your lady, her photograph shall appear in all the papers next day with Daisy's beside it, Daisy and her little dog.'

The Prime Minister shook his head sadly; and so they went in to lunch together.

The Prime Minister ate hardly anything, but the Archbishop left nothing on his plate.

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